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REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
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GENEALOGY

THE

James Francis Richards

Branch

OF A

Richards Family of New England

THAT OF

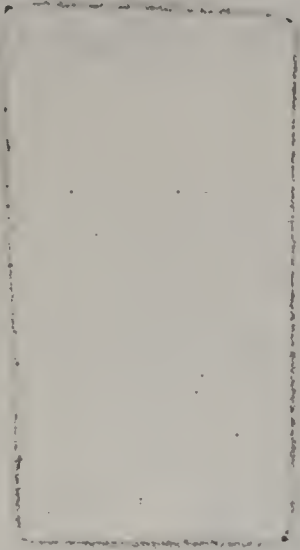
EDWARD RICHARDS

G. W. Richards

DEDHAM - - - MASSACHUSETTS

1635-1684

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Compiled by
Arthur Wescate Richards, New Paltz, N. Y.
and
Benjamin Richards 3rd, Kenilworth, Ill.
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Foreword

Our Creator, having given our family an humble place and part amongst the human families of the earth, we of its living descendants, advisably and modestly may take some note of ourselves in the way of a family record which we hope will be continued as it proceeds, God willing, with its career among its fellow men on earth.

Like us today some of our descendants may wish to know from whence and from whom they came, with some record of their human heritage in terms of human beings.

This book is a brief record of the James Francis Richards branch of the family, compiled while certain records are still available and when the memories and notes of living members may contribute to the record.

One object was to depart from the usual form of a genealogy; and make the record of more than names and dates of births, marriages and deaths; to make note of personalities, family and individual traits of character, health, institutional connections—in short, a record of human beings and their lives, however humble. Prominence is given to the women of the family, the wives and mothers, so far as data are available, in consideration of their part in heritages as being equal in importance with that of the fathers.

Indeed, it is considered that the basic theme of a genealogy is the eugenics of a family, through its generations. This major concern of a genealogy cannot be in the record unless the mothers and their family contributions to heritage are included in due measure.

In compiling this record of our branch of the Richards family, beginning at the time where Abner Morse left it about 1860, we have tried to get in it just those kinds of information which we wished so much to find out about our ancestors, and

so often could not, namely much about their homes, where lived, what they did for a living, their aptitudes, social connections, special interests, what they stood for in religion and other human affairs and their interests, all such probably being the best evidence of them as human beings.

In compiling this record considerable research of records has been made that required some changes in facts, dates, etc., varying from the Morse record but in every case, barring error, we have the record and sources for these changes.

Also we are pleased that from our searches considerable material has been added that bears on Richards history, but came from other family records especially the Belcher family.

Even so this record leaves a great many interesting matters that could be traced further and brought to light.

The scarcity of records, papers, wills, etc., pertaining to Benjamin, 1st., was especially of note and caused trouble.

It is our hope that the living members of our family will keep up and continue this record in respect to their particular families and that future generations will do likewise. Also, that some member of each generation ahead, will undertake the compilation of all the records extant at the time for his branch, that such family records may not become lost or dissipated, but rather conserved and perpetuated.

God grant that the future record may continue as honorable as that of the past.

Sarasota, Florida, January 15, 1942.

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INDEX

CHAPTERS

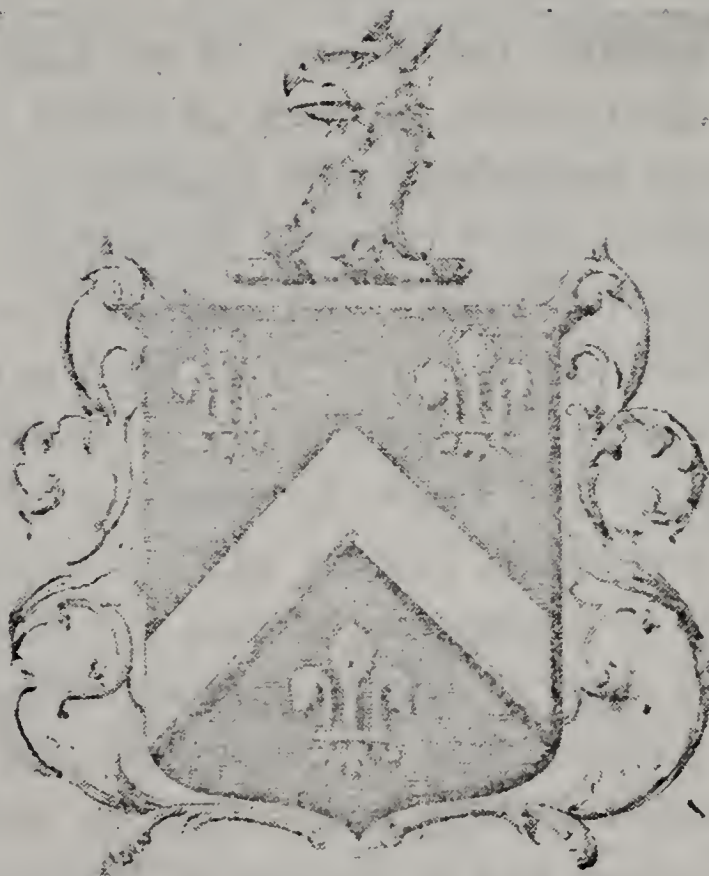
	Page
Foreword - - - - -	3
Bibliography and Sources - - - - -	5
Coat of Arms - - - - -	7
Brief of Ancestral Record - - - - -	9
Broad Oaks - - - - -	15
Edward and Descendants - - - - -	22
Benjamin Richards II - - - - -	27
Benjamin Richards II Homestead - - - - -	33
James Madison - - - - -	47
James Francis - - - - -	51
Arthur Westcate - - - - -	63
Gerald Reed - - - - -	69
Melvin Lewis - - - - -	73
Leonard Martin - - - - -	77
Ralph Waldo - - - - -	81
Benjamin Richards III - - - - -	85
Ross Richards Family - - - - -	91
Winthrop Richards Family - - - - -	95
Alfred Billings Richards Family - - - - -	99

ILLUSTRATIONS

Coat of Arms - - - - -	8
Edward Richards - - - - -	13
Broad Oaks - - - - -	14
Map of Dedham Village - - - - -	14
Benjamin Richards II - - - - -	25
Some Sons and Grandsons of Benjamin II - - - - -	26
Map of the Town of Sharon - - - - -	32
Benjamin Richards II Homestead - - - - -	32
James Madison - - - - -	45
James Francis - - - - -	49
Arthur Westcate - - - - -	61
Harbor Lodge and Woodholm - - - - -	62
Gerald Reed - - - - -	67
Gerald Reed Richards Home - - - - -	63
Melvin Lewis - - - - -	71
Melvin Lewis Richards "Farmholm" - - - - -	72
Leonard Martin - - - - -	75
Home of Leonard Martin - - - - -	76
Ralph Waldo - - - - -	79
Benjamin Richards III - - - - -	83
Benjamin Richards III Children - - - - -	84
Ross Richards - - - - -	89
Alfred Billings Richards - - - - -	97
Home of Alfred Billings Richards - - - - -	98
Present Day Towns Included in Dedham Grant - - - - -	101

COAT OF ARMS

The books of heraldry give no less than seventeen distinct coats of arms by the name Richards, most of them pointing back to Wales, but some are of English origin. The above is supposed to be the Welsh original before embellishments were added, but it shows a crest. Crests were added to the original shields at a later date and they vary, supposedly being peculiar to the individual. Mottos were added later. The coat of arms used by some of the family who first arrived in New England was that of Francis Richards' of East Bagborough, County Somerset, England, 1628. Francis was the son of John and grandson of William, all of Somerset. This coat of arms was quite different than the above. It was a silver shield with a band of five red diamonds between two narrower black bars. The crest was a silver paschal lamb carrying a banner with the Cross of St. George. The motto was: Honore et Amore (Honour and Love). The wide band (Fesse) across the center of the shield is a girdle of honour (military) and calls for the bearer to be always ready to serve the public well. The black bars (barrulates sable) are the bars of conscience, religion and honour against all evil passion and temptation. The Paschal Lamb is the emblem of Faith and the founder of Christianity.



BY THE NAME OF RICHARDS.

THE RICHARDS FAMILY
COAT OF ARMS

Ancestral Record

The name, Richards, is of Welsh origin and is the equivalent of the English Richardson. However, there are ancient records of Richards' and Richardsons' in both Wales and England.

There appears to be no authentic descent record of the Richards family back to its source but Morse's Genealogy, which records the family in America, states that the original Richards family was probably first established at Caerynwick, Marioneth (now Merioneth) County, Wales. This County is in North Wales on Cardigan Bay. Rev. Morse records that, "at Caerynwick, the Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, often President of the House of Lords, Sir Richard Richards, inherited a manor of which his ancestors, about 1550, were spoken of as, 'the ancient possessors'. The lordship of Dinwiddick, the ancient stronghold of North Wales, embracing Marioneth County, is said to have been assigned by Edward I to his son-in-law, 'of high Norman extraction', after the conquest of 1277. The records indicate that his descendents, 'continued to possess it and never to have lost it'."

The name Richards is sometimes said, erroneously, to have been derived from the English, rich heart, but the name existed, "long prior to the English tongue". It is found in Spain, France, Germany, Norway and Sweden as well as in England and Wales. It appears first in England as the name of the Archbishop of Canterbury during the reign of Henry II, 1154-89; the Pope probably sent the Archbishop to England from some continental country or from Wales. He was the "second man in the kingdom" and Henry II is said to have named his son Richard I (Coeur de Lion) after the Archbishop. Like most Welsh names the terminal "S" was used to denote the father.

Welsh names are nearly all patronymic. In early use

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

"AP" appeared before the father's name, the terminal "S" being later substituted. Thus Ap Richard, Ap Adam, Ap William became Richards, Adams, Williams, etc.

The Welsh families naturally spread to England. Many Richards' settled in Somerset where, at East Bagborough, the family was prominent as also in Dorchester, in Dorsetshire near by. Emigrants from Dorchester, settling in the new world, gave the same name to their lands, hence the "Dorchester Grant". Some of this district, a part of Boston, still bears the name.

Thomas Richards, a merchant and, "a man of note", from Dorchester, England, or East Bagborough near by, came to Dorchester, Massachusetts, with his family, on the ship Mary and John, in 1630. He evidently was the first Richards to settle in America.

(A record, with evidences of some errors, shows Thomas as the seventh generation from James (in England). He was born about 1590.)

Thomas removed to Weymouth in 1636 where relatives had settled. He operated a flour mill there and died well to do.

Edward, with whom this record of a particular branch of the Richards family starts, is presumed to have been the nephew of Thomas (1st), a brother of Nathaniel (1st) and Thomas (2nd) and either cousin or brother of William and John of Plymouth. Edward arrived on the ship Lyon in 1632 with Nathaniel. They lived together in Cambridge until Nathaniel went to Hartford and Edward to Dedham in 1636.

The Richards³ who first settled in this country, the dates of their arrival and the places of their settlement are as follows:

1. Thomas, 1630. Dorchester 1630-6; Weymouth 1636-50.
Born about 1590. Died 1650.
2. Nathaniel, 1632, Cambridge 1632-6; Hartford, Conn., 1636-52; Norwalk, Conn., 1653-82.
3. William, 1632, Plymouth 1632-6; Scituate 1633-45; Weymouth 1645-82.
4. John, 1632. Plymouth 1632-52; New London, Conn., 1652-87.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

5. Edward, 1632, Cambridge 1632-5-6; Dedham 1636-84. ✓
6. Richard, 1633, Lynn 1633-78.
7. George, 1635, Weymouth 1635-38.
8. Thomas (2nd), 1636, Hartford 1636-9.
9. Paul, 1667, New York 1667-80.
10. John (2nd), 1694, Newbury 1694-99; Piscataqua, N. H., 1699-1703.
11. Humphrey, 1695, Boston 1695-1727.
12. Samuel, 1714, Norwalk, Conn., 1714-61.
13. Charles, 1728, Marblehead 1728-?

There are records showing a John Richards living in Gloucester County, Virginia, in 1652, and Richard Richards, living in James City, Va., in 1651, and another in 1653. A number of the family joined William Penn in Pennsylvania in 1682. A Richard -ap- Richard owned land in Chester County Pa. 1790.

Morse's Genealogy has records of descendants, at least in part, of all these except Nathaniel (2) although his will is quoted naming four sons, but no other records of children of descendants are given, and George (7) who died probably within three years after his arrival. All appear to be closely related—brothers, cousins or nephews, except Richard (6), Paul (9), Samuel (12), and Charles (13), although these latter may have been more distant relatives.

The Records of the Ancient Burial Place in Dedham show that ninety-four Richards^s were buried there, and probably a large number of the above mentioned first Richards comers to America have descendants among this ninety-four.

The "I's" of the New England Character

INDIVIDUALITY

INTELLIGENCE

INITIATIVE

INTEGRITY

INDUSTRY

Notwithstanding That—

Old King Cole

Was a merry old soul

And a merry old soul was he.

He laughed and he roared

Whenever he thought

Of the fruits on his family tree!

(John C. Metcalfe)

PRESENT DAY TOWNS INCLUDED IN THE DEDHAM GRANT

From the original Grants of towns there has been considerable shuffling of specific towns and old names.

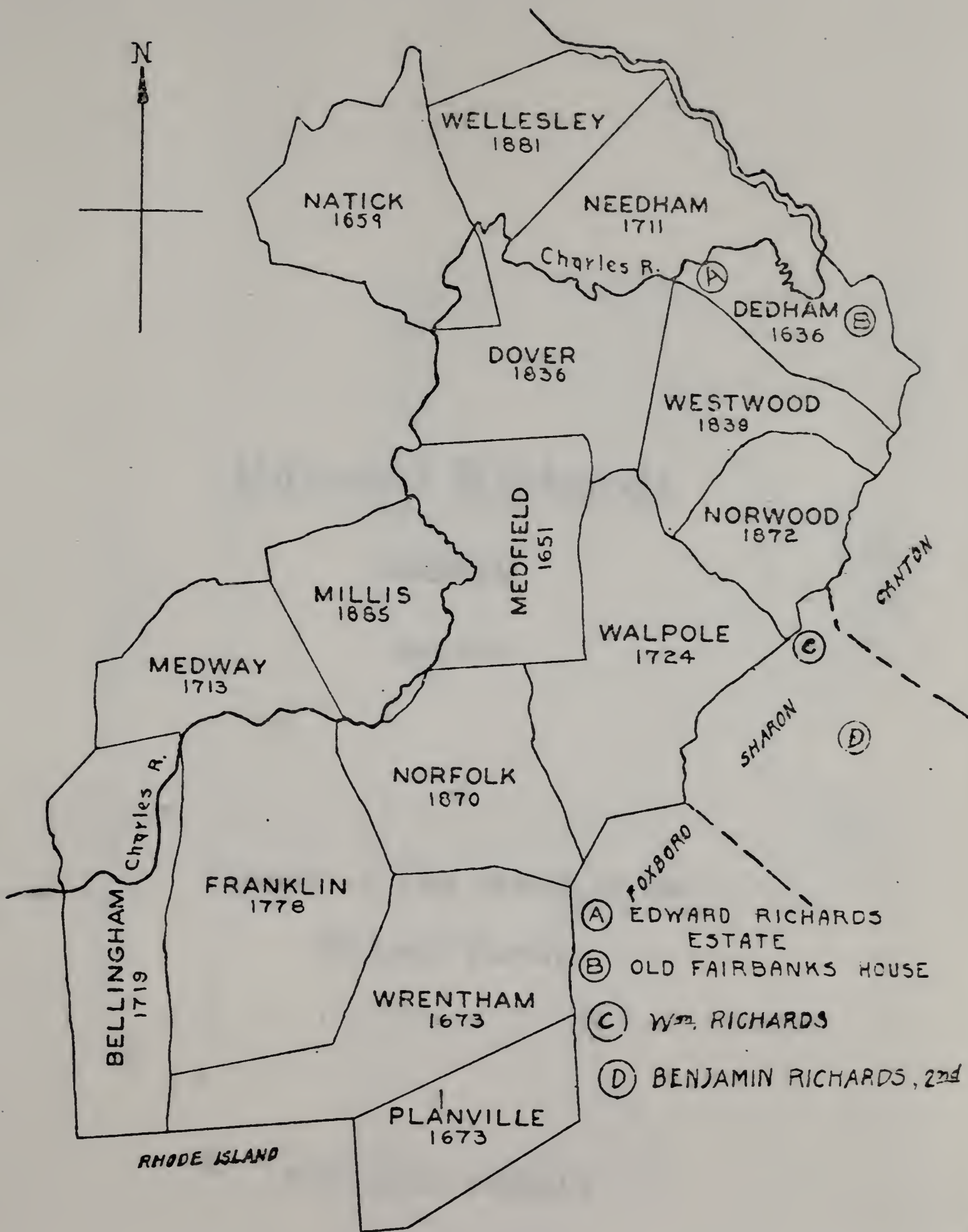
Stoughton, Dedham, Dorchester, etc., were large tracts of land covering many present day towns, and giving some confusion as to the locations of old places, homes, lands, when referred to as of Stoughton, Sharon, etc.

DORCHESTER was incorporated in 1630, annexed to Boston at different periods and is now a part of Suffolk County.

STOUGHTON was originally a part of Dorchester and embraced within its limits what are now the towns of Canton, Sharon and Foxborough. It was incorporated in 1726.

CANTON was originally the south Precinct of Dorchester, and the first Parish of Stoughton, called Dorchestser Village. It was incorporated in 1779.

SHARON was originally the second Parish of Stoughton, was incorporated in 1765. It was first called Stoughtonham.



Edward Richards

DEDHAM

1635-1684

Founder of This Branch of the
Richards Family

RECORDED HEREIN



BROAD OAKS

Dedham, Massachusetts

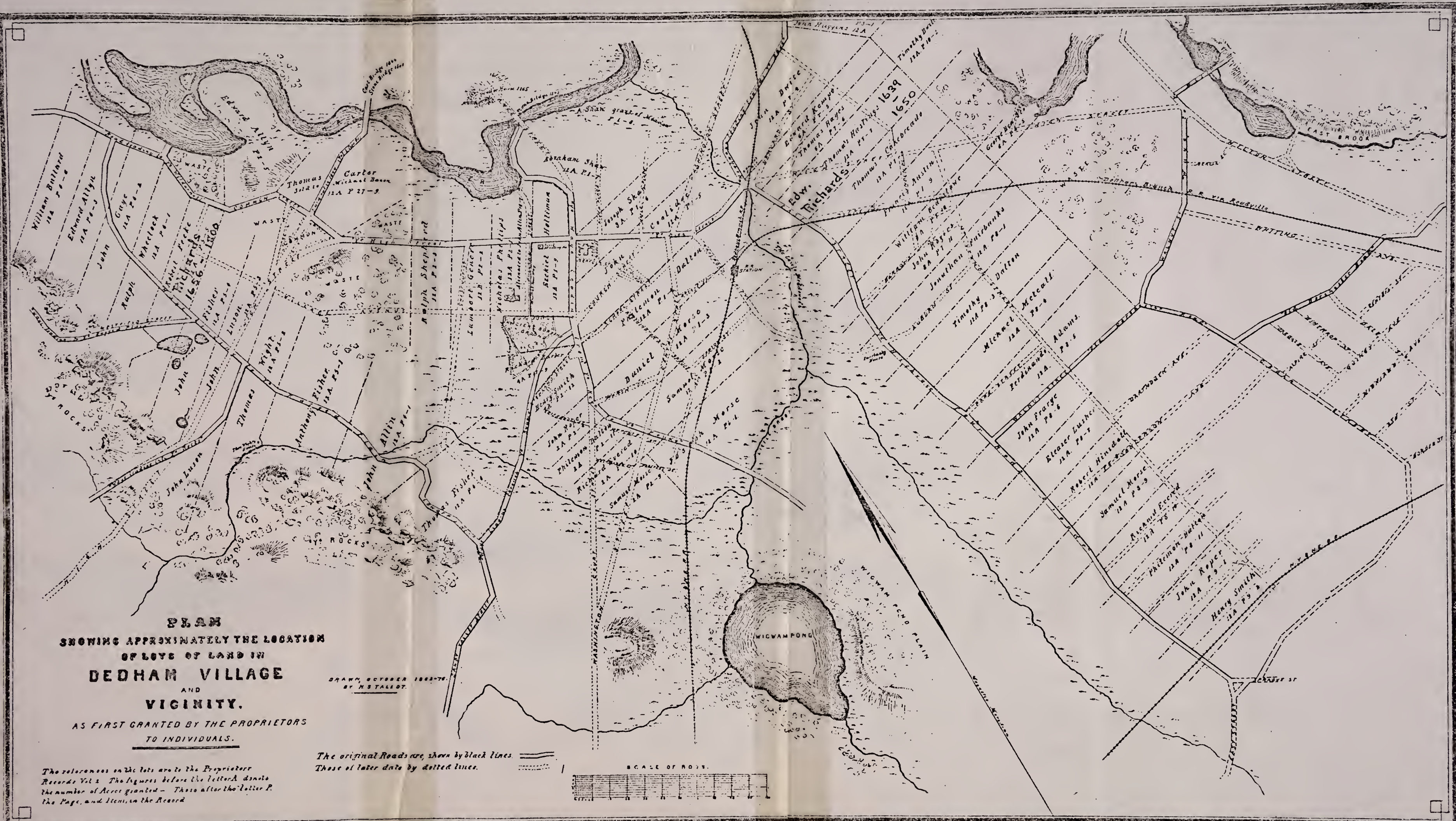
The Richards Ancestral Home

Home of Edward Richards and Descendants

To Jonathan, 1837.

From a Painting in the Rooms of

THE DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

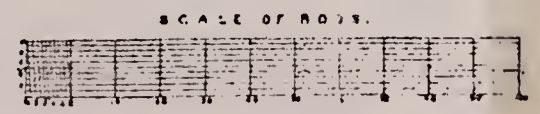


PLAN
SHOWING APPROXIMATELY THE LOCATION
OF LOTS OF LAND IN
DEDHAM VILLAGE
AND
VICINITY.
AS FIRST GRANTED BY THE PROPRIETORS
TO INDIVIDUALS.

DRAWN, OCTOBER 1883-76.
BY H. S. TALLEY.

The references on the lots are to the Proprietors
Records Vol. 2. The figures before the letters denote
the number of Acres granted - Those after the letter P.
the Page, and Item, in the Record.

The original Roads are shown by black lines.
Those of later date by dotted lines.



Broad Oaks

Broad Oaks is the only home of Edward Richards of which there has been found to March 1, 1942, definite record, information, and a picture. It appears we must accept it as our families' ancestral homestead, and this with pleasure that we can know so much about it. There can be little doubt that Broad Oaks is not the first or original home of Edward, and it may have been his third as the records show that he acquired two lots of land before he acquired that on which Broad Oaks was built.

By the picture Broad Oaks would seem to be far from a pioneer dwelling, but rather represent a stage of prosperity and acquirement of well being, as it stood for the family home requirements and standard of home for about two hundred years. A constant endeavor has been made to find definite record evidence as to just when Broad Oaks was built, and it is but recently and since this copy has been in the hands of the printer, that we have secured records which give us a close enough answer to this question. The Dedham Tercentenary Volume records that "a Thomas Hastings lot, at the first recorded meeting of the Aug. 18, 1636, was laid down to John Eaton, but actually went to Edward Richards, 1639, who in 1651 transferred it to William Avery." "This Hastings lot was in an entirely different part of Dedham from Broad Oaks, as can be seen in the "Plan of Lots of Land in Dedham Village."

Another lot at the second meeting, Aug. 29, 1636, running northeasterly, including most of Wights Pond, to Common St. Glen Ridge Road running through the center, and a farm two miles to the west of 150 acres, all laid down Nov. 23, 1638, to Robert Feake.

The Feake village lot and the farm land became separated, the Cooke Estate selling the farm to Anthony Fisher, 1652.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

and in 1653 Anthony Fisher sold it to Henry Phillips of Boston.

Edward Richards must have bought this farm after 1653, but there has been found no deed or other record of this so we do not know assuredly from whom or when he bought it.

The records show that Edward Richards bought the Robert Feake village lot from Anthony Fisher, March, 1653.

From these items of record it appears (1) that Edward Richards owned two lots of land in Dedham village, first the Thomas Hastings lot from 1639 to 1650-51, and on which he probably lived, so had a house there on for part or all of this time; (2) and also on the Robert Feake lot which he bought in 1656 he may have lived for a time, (3) that the Cooke farm could have come to him any time from 1653 to 1670, (4) that Broad Oaks may have been built within this period, and (5) it would seem most probable that this would have been nearer 1670 than 1653 if Edward had been living, perchance, on the Hastings lot and then on the Robert Feake lot, and also considering the excellence and standard of the Broad Oaks house, would further argue its being built nearer 1670, which it may be well enough to leave it as our record.

As a commentary on Edward Richards, his time and its social and economic ratings, it is on record that "Edward began life (in America) with more means than most of the planters of Dedham," and from a list of admissions to the Church of Christ, Nov. 8, 1638, 1649-50, it is recorded "Richards, Edward, 1639, Shoemaker, wife Susan—." We see here a comingling of a workman and a land owner of estate.

The Edward Richards estate in the Dedham "grant" was a large one. While Edward was living in Cambridge, in 1635-6, prominent citizens of Cambridge and adjoining Watertown organized enterprises to settle Dedham and Hartford (Ct.). Edward's brother, Nathaniel, was interested in Hartford and settled there. Elder John Hunting of Watertown was interested in Dedham and later built a home there. According to Rev. Abner Morse, in his genealogy of the Richards family,

Edward Richards was betrothed to Elder John Hunting's daughter, Susan, whom he later married, and so chose Dedham for his future home rather than to follow his brother to Hartford. He was established in Dedham before it was "settled" in 1637.

In speaking of Dedham and other original districts in New England we should picture very large areas. The present town of Dedham is only one of sixteen present day towns then a part of the original Dedham grant (see map). The lands granted to individuals were also proportionately large. The various holdings of Edward Richards, including purchases, evidently were within areas extending from the present town line of Canton to the Charles River bordering the town of Dover with probably some lands now included in the towns of Sharon, Norwood and Westwood.

In 1636 he became one of the original "Proprietors" of Dedham and was the sixty-second signer of the "social compact". As land grants were proportioned according to one's standing or holdings Edward Richards acquired a large holding in the Dedham grant as a proprietor. It is said that he drew fourteen "lots". A lot consisted of about 12 acres of farm and wood land. In 1657-8 a large tract known as the "Cedar Swamp" was divided among seventy-nine proprietors and Edward acquired next to the largest share of this. These, with his previously acquired Cook and other properties and later grants and purchases, established Edward as one of the larger land owners.

Broad Oaks was one of the best houses in the district, there being only twelve houses valued higher in 1648.

In the Thomas Hastings lot Edward acquired land in or close to the Village, where in 1664 there were about ninety-five houses, mostly small, located near the site of the Court House and easterly to "Dwigh's Bridge". It is recorded that Edward was interested in establishing a "Manor House" and was more interested in his home and its surroundings than in his extensive lands.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

The Broad Oaks estate was located northwest of the central village bordering on the southeast side of the Charles River, the house being about two miles west of the County Court House. This site is in the westerly corner of the present bounds of the town of Dedham near where the boundaries of Dedham, Needham, Dover and Westwood meet (see map). The present Richards Street in Dedham appears not to have been included within the original estate.

All of Edward's properties did not adjoin. Some lands were widely separated from others. This, and because of subdivision amongst heirs of large families, as in other original estates in New England, resulted in the estate being divided into small units with diversified ownership. However, parts of the estate are still in the name of a Richards or in that of descendants of a family, a member of which married a Richards.

Edward Richards lived at "Broad Oaks" until his death in June, 1684. Here, according to Rev. Abner Morse, "he commenced improvements, read his Bible, communed with his Redeemer, interceded for his race and ended his pilgrimage." His widow, Susan Hunting, followed him about two weeks later.

The wisdom, business sense and independence of Edward Richards is shown, not only by his purchase of land within the Dedham grant before the Dedham proprietaryship was organized, but also in the making of his will. He and Susan Hunting had five children, Mary, John, Dorcas, Nathaniel and Sary—two sons and three daughters. The oldest son, John, according to the record, was a "respectable man and an exemplary Christian". But when father Edward made his will John had but one son and three daughters. Later he had another daughter and another son, the latter living only to the age of eighteen. John died at the age of forty-seven.

Possibly, with his high qualities, Edward was governed more or less by vanity, or, more likely, by an earnest desire to perpetuate his family and estate. Possibly he recognized a

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

physical weakness in John, the elder son. These were trying times and living under the pioneering conditions was hard, with high death rates. At any rate Edward ignored the customary elder son priority and left the "manor house" and about a double share of his lands to Nathaniel, his second and only other son. However, his will well provided for John, his daughters and his sons-in-law.

At the time the will was made, Nathaniel, who had married Mary Aldis, (whose mother was an Elliott) had all sons (quoting Rev. Abner Morse), "three already born, another near his arrival and more in prospect"! (The good Reverend does not explain how he and old Edward could have seen so clearly into the immediate and distant future.) However, Nathaniel did have five sons in a row followed by three daughters.

Nathaniel died "suddenly while sitting in his chair" in his seventy-ninth year, Feb. 15, 1727. His wife survived him. Rev. Morse says, "a comparison of the first and second sections of this chapter will show how correctly the old Puritan reasoned and how wisely he acted. John had enough and Nathaniel none too much; for the old homestead continued in the family longer than the Crown of Great Britain has remained in one House, or entailments, on an average, in one name."

Morse's book, published in 1861, records 401 descendants of John and 928 descendants of Nathaniel. Later records also confirm Edward's prophecy.

Nathaniel seems to have followed his father's example, having left the homestead to his third (second surviving) son, Lieutenant Edward (2d), who had three wives, seven sons and three daughters and lived to be eighty-seven years old. Following Edward (2d) the homestead passed successively, by generations, to Nathaniel, James, Ebenezer and then to "Deacon" Jonathan (1799) who sold the estate to Rev. Ebenezer Burgess in 1831, when, for the first time, the homestead passed out of the Richards family.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

It appears from records of wills and deeds in the Dedham Court House that Broad Oaks was surveyed in 1831, and the deed drawn then, the deed to Burgess was recorded Jan. 6, 1838, and that Burgess built in 1839. Also deeds showing that Jonathan bought two parcels of land joining the Broad Oaks land. The records show that the deeds of these do not apply to land sold to Burgess with Broad Oaks. One lot deed was dated, May, 1813: (this date long before Jonathan sold to Burgess) from John Fisher Wilson, and the other lot about twenty acres, date of deed, April, 1834, from William Richards of Natick, to "Jonathan Richards of Roxbury," and signed by William Richards and Mary P. Richards (his wife).

Jonathan's second wife died July 1, 1830. Jonathan July 21, 1837, so he was alone between 1830 and 1837, and we wonder where he lived that time?

It appears from the above data, (1st) the deed to him as of "Roxbury", that for a time at least he lived there. His children all lived in Roxbury at this time; (2nd) the eight years time after Ebenezer Burgess bought the place to 1839 when he built his house on the land, and especially in view of the fact that Burgess and Jonathan were very good friends, would allow a time, when Jonathan might have lived on at Broad Oaks, up to his death as a privilege.

The following quotation from the Dedham Tercentenary Volume 1636-1936, locates Broad Oaks in terms of 1936 streets etc., as "Broad Oak, West St. (Needham Road). Built by Rev. Ebenezer Burgess D. D., in 1839. This fine old place is now owned and occupied by John K. Burgess, and his sister Sarah. It is situated—just across from the Onion house".

As for the circumstances which induced Jonathan to sell Broad Oaks and let it go out of the family, the above data eliminates financial reasons, argues adjustment of interests and arrangements agreeable to Dr. Burgess and himself fitting practical circumstances of each, and perchance Jonathan's pleasure in having his home go to his great and old friend Burgess, in view of the fact that none of his children, who

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

were married and settled in Roxbury appeared to care to carry on at Broad Oaks. This circumstance left Jonathan the problem of the disposition of his old family homestead as one full of regrets and emotions, with the next best thing to do about it.

Evidently Broad Oaks was torn down when Ebenezer Burgess built his home in 1939, as there is a "rapier with a wooden handle" at the Historical Society found in an oven of the Captain Jonathan Richards house when demolished at Broad Oaks". "This Rapier was given by Edward Burgess March, 1864."

The Dedham Historical Society had the picture of Broad Oaks painted before it was demolished and our Richards family gratitude is here acknowledged.

Edward and Descendants

In Line to James Francis' Family

(1) EDWARD, No. 5, was the founder of the branch of the Richards family followed herein. His is by far the largest Branch of the Richards family in this country. His story and that of his son Nathaniel is told under the heading BROAD OAKS.

He was born, about 1610, in England, and died June 25, 1684. He married Susan Hunting of Watertown in Sept., 1638. He joined the Dedham church in May, 1640. His wife joined in 1644. He took the Freeman's oath in 1641, and was select man for nine years from 1646. Susan died July 9, 1684.

Edward and Susan had two sons and three daughters. 1—Mary (Nathaniel Bullard) 1639-1723; 2—John, 1641-1686, mrd. Mary Colburn; 3—Dorcus, 1643-16484; 4—Nathaniel, 1646-1726; 5—Sary, 1651-mrd. A. Hearsey.

(2) NATHANIEL, (2nd son) Dedham. Born Nov. 25, 1648. He died February 15, 1727, age 78. He married Mary Aldis (her mother an Elliot). They had five sons and three daughters.

(3) JEREMIAH (Captain) Roxbury, Born March 30, 1681. He died Aug. 4, 1763, in his 83rd year. He married Hannah Fisher of West Roxbury.

Jeremiah on his marriage settled in West Roxbury, adjoining Dedham, his home being on the present Spring St.

Jeremiah had "much land" and his homestead was "the geographical center of a numerous race of his name." He established the famous Peacock Inn, celebrated later as the center of revolutionery activities. His title of Captain is not explained, but his prominence suggests public activities such as military service.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

Jeremiah and Hannah Fisher had seven sons and one daughter: (1) Jeremiah; (2) William; (3) Daniel; (4) Nathaniel; (5) Joseph; (6) Hannah; (7) Ebenezer; (8) John.

(4) WILLIAM (Ensign). Sharon. Born Dec. 20, 1707. Died June 19, 1797, aged 90. William married Elizabeth Baker, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Pike) Baker of Roxbury on May 30, 1733. His father gave him land in the north part of Sharon (it was then Stoughton) in the so called Pigeon Swamp district. Here he died. His estate has been continuously in the hands of his direct descendants.

William and Elizabeth Baker had five sons and one daughter: (1) William; (2) Thomas; (3) Benjamin 1st; (4) Elizabeth; (5) Jeremiah; (6) Ebenezer. William married Anna Cummings; Thomas evidently was a bachelor to old age; Benjamin 1st, married Mary Belcher; Elizabeth married William Withington; Jeremiah died in childhood; Ebenezer married Elizabeth Lyon.

(5) BENJAMIN (1st). Sharon. (then Stoughton). Born March 30, 1738. Died Jan. 1816, age 78. Benjamin 1st. married Mary Belcher of Stoughton on October 1, 1763. He had land in North and East Sharon and may have built the gambrel roofed house, lived on and operated the East Sharon Benjamin 2nd farm, but this is only family tradition.

Most diligent search has shown no evidence in records verifying these statements.

(See this matter under The Benjamin Richards Homestead.)

Benjamin and Mary Belcher had six daughters and four sons. (1) Mary; (2) Elizabeth; (3) Benjamin, 2nd; (4) Hannah; (5) Luke; (6) Pruda; (7) Barna; (8) Pruda; (9) Thomas Pownal (Captain); (10) Nancy. Mary married a Lyon of Coleraine; Elizabeth, Thomas Sheppard of Canton; Hannah, Andrew Capen of Dorchester; Barna, Ann Pope; Thomas, 1st, Relief Pope, 2nd Betsy Bird; Nancy, Darius Lathrop of Sharon; Luke died young, and Lucy and Pruda died in infancy.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

Elizabeth (Sheppard) had Thomas, Luke and Joel. Thomas married Caroline Richards, daughter of Benjamin 2nd. Hannah (Capen) had a son Nahum, who was postmaster at Boston. Nancy (Lathrop) had five sons and three daughters.

BENJAMIN RICHARDS II

1768-1850

FIFTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



BENJAMIN RICHARDS II

Sharon

SOME SONS AND GRANDSONS OF
BENJAMIN RICHARDS II



Lewis
George
Charles Francis

Mrs. Lewis
Alfred
Frederick E.

(Last Two Are Grandsons)

Benjamin Richards II

With Benjamin 2nd. we come to the Great Grand Father of the Ninth generation from Edward, some of whom are living and all of whom have had personal living contacts and some recollections of him by living on the old Benjamin homestead, knowing his sons and their children, from all of which they have gathered by hearsay much of family concern that is not of record as yet.

Benjamin (2) was born March 6, 1768. He died Jan. 10, 1850, 81 years 10 months old. He married (1st) Jan. 19, 1797, Ruth Billings of Sharon, daughter of Captain William Billings (1742-1816) and Mary Leonard. Ruth was born, Dec. 3, 1777. She died Sept. 15, 1824, in her 47th year.

Benjamin and Ruth had six sons and two daughters—(1) Polly, Nov. 1, 1797; (2) Charles, Jan. 16, 1800; (3) Billings, Dec. 1802; (4) Caroline, June 13, 1806; (5) James Madison, April 28, 1809; (6) Lewis, Dec. 17, 1811; (7) George, Jan. 1814; (8) Alfred, Feb. 18, 1817.

Polly (1) married Tisdale Drake, a merchant of Boston. Charles (2) married Elizabeth P. Smith of Canton. Caroline (3) married Thomas Sheppard of Canton. James Madison (4) married Eliza M. Keen of Pembroke. Lewis (6) married Anna Alden Loring Denton of Braintree. George (7) married Elmer Manchester of Dartmouth; Alfred married 1st. Comfort Hicks Corey of Tiverton, and 2nd. Lenora Jane Trafton of Gardiner. Me.

Benjamin 2nd. then married Mrs. Betsey Tolman Harlow of Sharon. They had (9) Spencer, October 25, 1826.

Spencer married Maria Tolman of Sharon. They had no children.

Billings died age 24, unmarried.

Charles (2) lived in Rockport, Me. He had Charles Fran-

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

cis, Henry Augustus, Benjamin Franklin, Caroline, Mary and Frederick E.

Charles Francis graduated from Colby University in 1855 and was later a trustee. He was a lime manufacturer, Treasurer of Rockport Savings Bank until his death. He was Superintendent of Baptist Church Sunday School for many years. He died of old age. A daughter Annie—Mrs. A. C. Moore—survived him.

Henry Augustus died age about 30, unmarried, and Benjamin Franklin died in infancy. Caroline married Andrew McCobb of Charleston, N. C., Mary married Frank Lambert.

FREDERICK E., of Portland, Me., was born Aug. 28, 1841, at Lincolnville, Me. He died May 8, 1918, at Portland, age 76 18 months, and was buried in Evergreen Cemetery, 672 Stevens Avenue, Portland. He married Caroline S. Piper, of Rockport, Me., who died in Portland, Me., May 13, 1903. Frederick E. was prominent in public affairs and business in the state of Maine throughout his life. He was a representative from Camden 1873-74, in 1875-76 he was a member of the Executive Council, in 1877 was appointed land agent by Gov. Connor, in 1878-79 was elected a Trustee of the Insane Hospital, and in 1890 was appointed by Gov. Davis as State Bank Examiner, serving three full terms. In 1889 he opened a Banking House in Portland, Me. During his lifetime in Portland he was also President of the Portland National Bank, and the Union Safe Deposit and Trust Company. In 1881 he was elected a Director of The Union Mutual Life Insurance Company, and became President Nov. 1, 1893, resigning in 1914.

His home in Portland was on the S. W. corner of Pine and Vaughn Sts. He was very sociable and genial and democratic in disposition, also generous and philanthropic where ever opportunity or need came to him. It is a matter of Richards family regret that this eminent, able and splendid Richards had no children.

Lewis (6) was a shoe manufacturer in Sharon, Bridge-

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

water and moved to Braintree in 1856. He had eight daughters and no sons.

1—Mary died in infancy, and Sally at the age of 21, unmarried. The others are (married names) Caroline F. Goodwin, Ellen M. Thayer, Clara M. Leonard; Harriet B. Gill; Emma J. Hartshorn, and Julia Manley.

Lewis and his wife were long members of the Braintree Baptist Church, and they lived to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in 1898. Lewis died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. William Leonard, in Somerville, Mass., March 12, 1903, aged 92. His wife preceeded him.

George (7) was in the restaurant business in New Bedford. He had two sons and a daughter, Elmer M. who married Albert Goulding of Providence, R. I. She had two daughters. The record of the two sons of George is missing.

Alfred, (8) was prominent in New Bedford where he located in 1838. For years he owned and operated stage coach lines into New Bedford and carried the mails before the Railroad was built. He was also in the whaling business. Prior to the age of 20 he was with his brother Lewis making shoes in Braintree.

He had no children by his first wife, but had one son, Alfred, by his second wife, Sept., 1883 which son never was well. Alfred Sr., died in New Bedford on March 12, 1903 age 86.

Spencer (9) had no children. He died may 28, 1889, age 63. He was a "Forty Niner" later returning to Sharon, he married Maria Tolman, and lived on the Tolmn farm south of Lake Massapoag, Sharon.

COMMENTARY

These great-uncles of the children of James Francis were the oldest and earliest of the Richards family of whom we had some personal contact, acquaintance and knowledge when we were young.

Our moving to the old Benjamin Richards homestead in East Sharon, after its purchase, 1879, occasioned a family

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RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

"get-together" with an opportunity to renew old ties and learn more about each other. On Thanksgiving day of the first or second year of our living on the farm, a family reunion was held with some thirty members present. We youngsters hardly sensed that these newly found great uncles were really brothers, coming back to their old boyhood home, and what it must have meant for them. After that event we saw them more often, particularly Uncle Lewis, who visited us nearly every fall, dropping in for a few days visit without notice, serenely walking in with his happy, genial smile and twinkling eyes. He continued these visits while well along in his 80's and always left with a statement that if he lived, God willing, he would return the following year.

Lewis had a round face and head as did his brother, James. Alfred had a longer head. All three were fairly short. All wore neatly trimmed beards according to the custom of the day, upper lip being usually kept shaved except Alfred who wore a mustache and "burnsides." All were in bearing, manners, dress and character thorough gentlemen.

They were reserved, a bit shy and gentle in manner, spoke in low tones usually in short, staccato words, uttered in crisp baritones, and with short, thoughtful sentences separated by pauses. Their laughs were quiet low chuckles and not infrequent. They were of moderate stature and physical makeup, Lewis being broad and deep chested, and they stood erect into very old age, except that James was very stooped in late years. They were never bald; Lewis particularly had a shock of hair, not all gray, on his death at 91.

They lived and went through life with calmness, dignity, poise and real religious minded. They were men of character, clean habits, prudent, conservative, industrious, moderately well off leaving but moderate estates. They were of the stuff that built this country in the character of its citizenship.

Their careers came at the beginning of the "away-from-the-farm" movement and just before the industrial period in

New England with its activities in manufacturing and finance. Alfred, active in large affairs in New Bedford, might represent the most aggressive but even he kept to his stage and whaling interests too long for his financial good, not having faith in the cotton mill business which was built up in New Bedford to a considerable extent on whale oil money.

Spencer, son of the second wife, was of a different type. Restless and loving California, was said to have never been contented with Sharon and especially New England weather.

It may be noted that up to the time of these sons of Benjamin 2nd all had been farmers.

It is also worthy of note that, if our records are correct, and excepting possible descendents of George of New Bedford which we have not been able to trace, the Benjamin Richards (2nd) family continuance is left to the descendants of James Madison through his son, James Francis, with, at the present date, twenty-six male descendants.

The mother families of our branch are, by generations starting with Edward (1836): (1) Hunting; (2) Aldis; (3) Fisher; (4) Baker; (5) Belcher; (6) Billings; (7) Keen; (8) Pettee. The wives of the sons of James Francis and Harriet Pettee, the eighth generation, are Reed (mother, Hall), Sawyer (mother, Pitcher), Ross (mother, Underwood) and Robinson (mother, Heiney).

The wives of the grandsons of James Francis are Rowe (mother, Stearns), Decker (mother, Walbridge), Lang (mother, Meissener), Winsloe (mother, Winslow), Watson (mother,), Stevens (mother, Mathieson), Sowers (mother, Vittum).

With but few exceptions these mothers' families have the same English background and heritage, and similar pre-American histories deemed worthy enough to warrant compilation and printed genealogical records.

Sharon contains the following

THEY ARE NOT

THE JOURNAL OF THE

7. 6. 1944, 19. 11. 1944, 20. 12. 1944

L'indication est à l'usage des A. B. C.

SHARON was set off and
incorporated, Dec. 4, 1775.
It contains 152.47 Acres.
deduct for Roads & Ponds, 506

Case No.	Case Name	Case Date	Case Status
1000	1000	1000	1000
1001	1001	1001	1001
1002	1002	1002	1002
1003	1003	1003	1003
1004	1004	1004	1004
1005	1005	1005	1005
1006	1006	1006	1006
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Sharon contains the following
Manufacturing Establishments
viz. 2 Cotton Factories, 1 Sashwork
Pec., and 2 Grist Mills.



MAP
OF THE TOWN OF
SHARON
(Mass.)
(INCORPORATED BY ACT OF STONINGTON)

This Plan was made in conformity to a law
of the State and under the direction of the Town.
Drawn from actual survey by

ELIJAH HEWITS, SURVEYOR.

1831.

Scale of 100 Rods to an Inch.
Published by E. L. Hewits, Sharon, Mass.

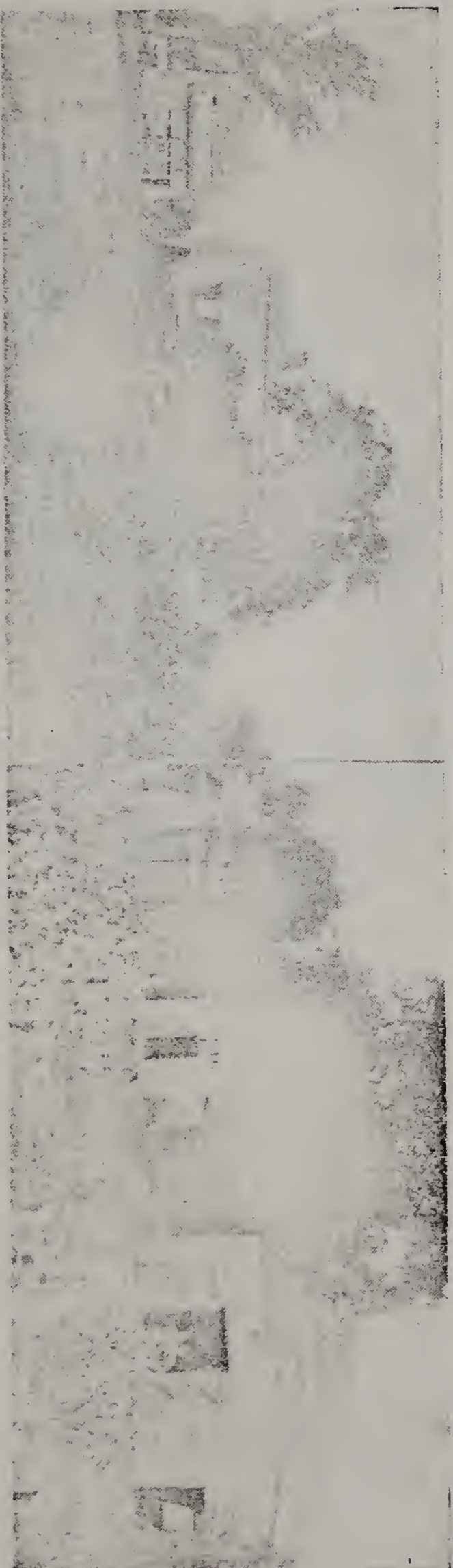
SHARON was set off and
Incorporated Dec. 4 - 1775
It contains 152.47 Acres.
deduct for Roads & Ponds, 506

CENSUS for 1809 gave 2010 Est
1810 1820 1830 1840



Benjamin Richards II

Homestead



BENJAMIN RICHARDS HOMESTEAD
EAST SHARON, MASS.

Benjamin Richards II

Homestead

In the East Sharon Richards farm we have a Richards homestead which really has come into our lives and is known to us personally by living on it when we were children and youths. It is a known ancestral homestead and so a living landmark in our family history. It has therefore been an urgent object in compiling this record to get all possible information about this homestead clarified and verified beyond doubt as to its accuracy of fact and meaning.

Especially has it been desired to get into the record the truth as to the origin of the homestead, who built it, when it was built, and from whom and how the land came.

I (A.W.R.) well remember my father, James Francis, saying while sitting on the shop steps evenings and talking to the farm hand, about 1882, that, "the house was 150 to 200 years old but he was not sure and nobody seemed to know." Nor did he say who might have built it. James Francis was born 1834. As his grandfather died 1850 he must have known his grandfather and, moreover his grandfather's sons who were born and brought up on the homestead, and they must have known their grandfather, Benjamin 1st, who lived to 1816, and yet it appears he gathered little from these as to the origin of the old homestead.

It was generally assumed or understood that Great-great-grandfather Benjamin (1st) acquired the land by heritage or purchase from his wife's Belcher family, or that it came to his wife, Mary Belcher, from her parents (whose names are not on record in the Morse genealogy) and that with Benjamin's money built the house and barn about the time he was married, and then established the homestead.

However, the definitely recorded evidence in wills, and

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

deeds of Benjamin 1st, argues strongly that the land of the homestead came from some Belcher as it is decidedly within the bounds of the large land holdings of the several Belcher families in Stoughton which over run well into East Sharon. The significant fact should be noted that Benjamin 2nd's homestead was on Belcher Street. Belcher Street was "the Lane" to us.

Benjamin 2nd, in his will, refers to the farm casually as "which I bought from my father." I recently have received a copy of a deed given by Benjamin 1st to Benjamin 2nd date of 25, Nov. 1795, which verifies this transfer of the farm. This deed specifies "for the sum of \$600.00, thirty acres more or less, and a dwelling house and barn" and gives bounds on lands of Jonathan, Jeremiah, and Andrew Belcher, also Benj. Gannett, Jr., Benjamin Richards the elder and land which the latter sold to others, which seems to show that Benjamin 1st owned more land about the homestead than he sold to Benjamin 2nd. This description definitely places Benjamin 2nd's land within Belcher land bounds.

Benjamin 1st's father, William's, land and home were in North Sharon close to the Walpole, Dedham and Canton lines and some six miles air line from the East Sharon Benjamin 2nd homestead, which circumstance eliminates the possibility of the East Sharon Benjamin farm being an heritage from his father William. Also this deed to Benjamin 2nd shows that Benjamin 1st had acquired a great deal of land around the East Sharon homestead, some, and maybe all, by purchase.

In regard to what Benjamin 1st received from his father William, I have recently received a copy of a surveyor's plan of land, this survey having been made at the request of William Richards by Josph Hewins, date of Dec. 15-16, 1766.

And just at this point a copy of a deed has come to hand which shows that this land came to William, Thomas and Benjamin Richards from the estate of Benjamin Everendon, deceased, by purchase in 1767, soon after the survey was made. This deed specifies "for the sum of 30 pounds, 132

(plus) acres, with buildings thereon." As no buildings are specified we do not know if any were houses.

The plan mentioned shows just what parts of the land went to William, Thomas and Benjamin. That to Benjamin one lot of 48 acres, 32 rds and one of 9 acres, 12 rds. totaled more than that to either William or Thomas and gave Benjamin some 58 acres of land in North Sharon close to that of his father William on which he could have lived had he wanted to. This Everendon land deed gives one bound on William Richards Sr., and, so the plot evidently adjoined William's homestead or other land of which he seemed to have had scattered lots in North Sharon.

This transaction does not bar the possibility that Benjamin received other land from his father William in this section of Sharon, before William made his will. The Everendon land was located on Walpole Street within two miles westward of the old Stone Factory in Canton and was in what is now Canton, close to the Sharon line where it crosses Walpole Street.

Records of deeds show that Benjamin 1st purchased considerable land in East Sharon around the Benjamin 2nd homestead, also that Benjamin 2nd was perhaps even more enterprising as a real estate dealer. The inventory in his will showed he purchased some eleven lots of land from neighbors amounting to about seventy acres, gave the land about the house as seventy acres and the cost or value of the whole 140 acres as \$3602.00.

Just how Benjamin 2nd financed the purchase of all this land is not revealed. Perhaps, if we had his father's will it might show that he was left a considerable amount of money as was his father.

It certainly appears that Benjamin 2nd must have had business interests and undertakings other than his farm, possibly wood and lumber, as his farm could not have met all the obligations his real estate dealings called for. His will and records of its administration show that his estate was a very complexed financial tangle, showing a considerable deficit and

leaving little to his heirs, which probably accounts for the homestead going out of family hands. The farm was not one of large fields and easy working, fertile land by any means and could have earned but a living for the family.

By the 1831 Map of Sharon it appears that the land holdings of the Belchers had been eliminated at that date, with the exception of a J. Belcher on the Bay Road N. E. from the two places designated as B. Richards, leaving the Richards, Gannett, Drakes and Williams mostly in possession.

The two B. Richards places on the Sharon 1831 map close together raises the question did Benjamin 1st have two places, one of which he sold to his son Benjamin, and perchance lived on the other, or did he live in the one he sold to Benjamin Jr., first and then built the house on the other, N. E. one, when the families got too crowded in the Benjamin Jr. Home?

This N. E. B. Richards place must have been what we knew as the Blackman farm, the house on which was more modern by far than the Benjamin Jr. home which would suggest that perhaps an older house was once on the place and might have burned. In the deed of the Benjamin 2nd homestead from Benjamin 1st, one bound was given on Benjamin the elder, which would indicate the land deeded adjoined some Benjamin 1st land and could have been that of the later Blackman farm. These evidences in deed and map, would seem to give us the most probable location of the Benjamin 1st home, which needs but a will or deed from Benjamin 1st to assure this.

In regard to the home of William Richards in North Sharon, our interest in it has been not only to discover any relation that it might have had as to Benjamin 1st establishing the East Sharon Richards homestead, but it was decidedly one of our ancestral homes, that of our third and fourth past grandfathers.

And now, forsooth, this day, April 6, 1942, and just before it is too late to get into the final type setting, by a few hours, there has come to hand a copy of the Will of Jeremiah

Belcher, of the District of Stoughtonham, in the County of Suffolk—date of March 12, 1774, which very much clears up this matter of the origin of the Benjamin Richards East Sharon Homestead with but one missing link or foundation stone, ie. which Belcher built it and when?

This Will assures the following items:

1. I give and bequeath to my wife, Mary Belcher, six pounds yearly to be paid her-----.

2. That Mary Belcher, wife of Benjamin Richards, 1st. Sharon was the daughter of Jeremiah and Mary Belcher of Stoughton.

3. That he willed to his daughter, Mary Richards, "my dwelling house, reserving to myself and my wife the best chamber thereof and the use of doors and stairs leading thereto, and convenient room in the cellar for things necessary to be put therein during each of our natural lives, and no longer, also two pieces of land on each side of the aforesaid way ----- Reserving to my son Jonathan and his family a common use of the well of water ----- likewise I give ----- to Mary Richards my barn and the land that it stands on and the yard adjoining thereto bounded ----- also the corn house is hereby given to her ----- all of which is to be appraised ----- and I hereby grant, assign, convey and confirm unto my loving Son-in-law Benjamin Richards of said Stoughtonham, (husband of my said daughter Mary,) ----- two sixth parts of the whole of my real estate over and above his wife's single portion. ----

"Furthermore I give to my son-in-law Benjamin Richards my old dwelling house as a gift to him."

4. This Will shows that Benjamin 2nd did not live with his father Benjamin 1st as previously suggested as a question, but that Jeremiah Belcher and wife definitely did live with Benjamin 1st at the East Sharon homestead the last days of their lives, probably, unless, perchance Benjamin 2nd came to live at the homestead that part of time after Jeremiah Belcher died and before his father died.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

5. The "old dwelling of Jeremiah Belcher given to Benjamin is a bit of a challenge. Was this the house on the Blackman farm, or was there an old house on the East Sharon Richards farm other than the gambled roof one.

Records lately received bearing on the Blackman farm are: Marriage record of Adam Blackman and Mary Belcher, both of Stoughton, Sept. 9, 1756. Name of Mary's parents not received.

Deed. Molly Richards, 1818, Dorchester, to a Blackman. description not applying. Deed, Jonathan Talbot of Dedham to James H. Blackman of Sharon Nov. 23, 1867. Meadow land, eight acres more or less, in Canton, bounded southerly on land of heirs of Moses Richards. dec'd, westerly on land of Jonathan Belcher, and land of Benj. Leonard, northerly land of Friend Drake, and of land owners not known. Easterly Sanford Billings, and James Richards, and heirs of Geo. Howard.

These items are put in our record as possibly bearing on the second B. Richards place on the 1831 Sharon map which we have to leave an unsolved matter.

6. The statement in the Will "reserving to my son Jonathan (Belcher) and his family the common use of the well,—" indicates that Jonathan must have lived at no great distance from Benjamin's home. This is one of several items that challenge further research for some coming day and family member whose curiosity it stirs.

The Benjamin 2nd farm was located at the end of Belcher Street which ran in westward about a half mile from Bay road immediately at the top of the hill just south of Cobb's tavern, Bay Road being the boundary line between Sharon and Stoughton.

The buildings were on high ground overlooking to the west the valley of the east branch of the Neponset River, which branch had its source in Lake Massapoag, Sharon, and on which there were three or four mills including the Lothrop knife and trowel works and Mann's cotton mill. When we were boys we used to go down the lane to this brook for our

swims. Beyond, to the west and up the hill, was Sharon village some two miles straight away. To the north the outlook was down hill over the flat lands which evidently were part of "Pigeon Swamp." To the south west was the Gannett farm from which records (deeds) show some land was added to the Richards farm by Benjamin 2nd. To the southeast was the Drake farm and east the Blackman farm, close behind the barn was a hill called Ridge hill running southward along the east side of the pasture and into Fuller woods, a road running along its foot on the steep, west side and into the Fuller woods. This was the road to the East Sharon school where about five of the children of James Francis went. There were three or four large elm trees about the farm buildings and a row of maples along each side of the drive entering the farm yard. Back of the house to the north was a pear orchard of about 300 trees which were set out by John Geissler, and along the drive north side, were several long rows of grapes.

Like so many houses of its day this one was gambrel roofed and had a large central chimney about eight feet square at the first floor and four feet at the roof, having fire places for the east and west rooms on each floor, the east living room fire place having a dutch oven and wood drying chamber. All of these fireplaces were closed up when James Francis occupied the house about 1879. The front door was in the center of the south side of the house with a central entrance hall lengthwise between the east and west front rooms. The stairway led from the hall on the opposite side from the front door, and by a quarter turn and straight eastward to the upper hall, at the east and west ends of which were doors to the bed rooms, one on the west and one east. Excepting in the upper hall and the northwest chamber, where the walls were on the lower slanting rafters, closets were under these rafters. one large closet in the east chamber filling the space back of the chimney to the rafters. On the first floor James Francis gave the east living room a bay window which greatly lighted it on the east. The cellar stairs opened from this room under

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

the upper stairs. On the back—north side—there were two small bedrooms, one at east and one at the west end with a long room between which we used for a dining-kitchen room, as probably was done long before. The west room was at times used for a bed room and was probably used often as the old fashioned parlor, as it had a white wooden mantel framing the fireplace. A back hall running from the center to the east contained a summer wash room, pantry and at the east end beyond the house a woodshed. Back of this ell, midway, was a milk room built by James Francis.

The building shown at the left in the picture are hen houses built by James Francis having cement basements in the bankings.

Also, like houses of its day, this one was solidly framed with heavy hand hewn oak timbers, doubtless from trees on the farm, joined by pinned mortises and tenons and the floor boards were wide. Also, as of its day, nails and hardware, etc., were hand wrought iron.

The barn shown in the picture may not be the original one but the fact that its framing exactly corresponds with that of the house would argue strongly that it might have been the original. The shop, the left central building, was built by John Geissler and contained the well. The grain house to its right was an earlier structure.

About two hundred yards north westward for the house, down the hill, was the family tomb built into the side hill. Its floor, walls and roof were of split granite, the roof pieces spanning the whole width. It was covered with earth and sod, making a mound against the banking behind it. It was in bad condition and in 1886 James Francis had the remains transferred to the Richards lot in Rock Ridge Cemetery, Sharon, and in 1903 soliciting funds from members of the family, had a monument set on which was inscribed the following:

— RICHARDS —

West side—Benjamin Richards, 1768-1850. His wife, Ruth Billings, 1777-1824.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

East side—James Francis Richards, 1834-1905. His wife, Harriet Newhall Pettee, 1837-1913. (Actually James Francis was buried in the Chestnut Hill Cemetery beside his mother.)

North side—Billings Richards, 1802-1826.

South side—Caroline Sheppard, 1806-1844. Her children, Caroline, 1842, Esther, 1845.

Small stones on the lot—Hattie, Sept. 5 1867, age 7.

Howard, 1876, age 9 monhs.

At the time (Dec. 30, 1886) the remains were transferred to Rock Ridge Cemetery at least five of the sons of Benjamin 2nd were living who it must be assumed knew just who were interned in the tomb, and who probably were consulted about the matter of determining the inscriptions on the stone. As there has as yet been found no record in references to Benjamin 1st that is not subject to question to the effect that he or any of his family were interned in the tomb it would appear that we must accept as probably correct simply what is inscribed on the monument. It might well be added that our generation know that no others of Benjamin 2nd's family were interned in the tomb.

The will of Benjamin Richards 2nd, Nov. 8, 1846, gave a small amount of cash to his wife, some acreage to his sons, Charles and James, one share of Neponset Bank stock to the Baptist Church, and the remaining estate to be divided equally between Lewis, George, Alfred, Spncer and Caroline. There was 138½ acres of land variously located, the farm having the homestead being of 70 acres. The original farm deeded to Benjamin 1st was 50 acres.

Lewis and Alfred were administrators. There is some evidence that debts accumulated in the last few years of Benjamin 2nd's life and there was some trouble settling the estate evidently because the home could not be divided as willed. One outside the family was finally chosen as administrator who seems to have charged a large proportionate fee. To effect the proper division the estate was sold to John Geis-

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

slar and temporarily passed out of the family control. We judge that no heir was much interested in farming and even if so was not in a position to buy out the others.

James Francis always retained his interest in the family records as he had much sentimentality in his makeup. Like old Edward he wanted to keep the family estate in the family. Unfortunately, times had changed.

About 1879 James Francis collaborated with Alfred, his uncle, of New Bedford and his brother George, and they bought back the old home from John Geissler. This transfer involved placing a mortgage. The deed was in the name of the two younger sons of James Francis, these being infants at the time. It was a strange arrangement involving labor and residence on the farm and assuming obligations for the large family, with the ownership in the name of two children of unknown future. The family lived here until 1892 when it removed to Canton after the older children, having no financial interest in the farm, had left for other fields and work more to their liking or had married.

Although James had high hopes of holding the old homestead in the family for generations the resources for doing so were wanting and it was a struggle to carry on. Not one in the family was interested in farming as a career and even the father never gave up his work with O. Ames & Sons but worked the farm mostly by superintending hired help, although giving the farm all the time and attention possible. The farm was rented at a loss to constantly changing tenants until April, 1901, when the house and barn burned, and then was abandoned to the mortgages.

The farm at this time consisted of 62 acres and was rough and very stoney, not adapted for modern farming. Two new houses were built; the first also burned but the second is still standing.

In 1938 Arthur and Ralph, sons of James Francis, found the old farm grown to quite a wilderness, the former fields and pastures having grown trees and bushes. The orchards,

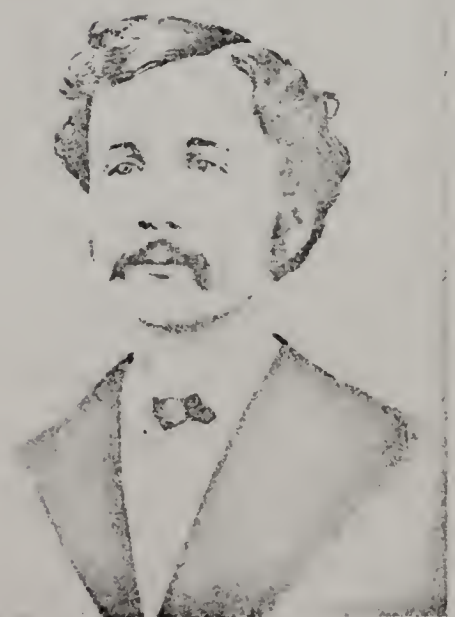
RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

although in bad shape, still bore fruit. The old landmarks—the well, the spring, the tomb, the bounds of fields were located but it was a saddening sight to see what the hands of time and fate had done to the old homestead of our family, burying the hard work and the hopes of our father with those of generations gone before. It was not the only such fate experienced by New England farms and families. The industrial age had arrived. Farming had gone west where the plow did not strike a rock about every ten feet.

JAMES MADISON RICHARDS

1809-1882

EIGHTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



James Madison
George Henry

Eliza Keen
Nahum

James Madison Richards

JAMES MADISON (5) married Eliza Magoon Keen, daughter of Icabod and Delane Keen of Pembroke, Mass., in 18. . She had twin and one other brothers. One twin lived in Bridgewater, Mass., and he had twin daughters. The other twin, Frederico, went to Chile, was in business and died there. The third brother, a bachelor, lived in Otahiti.

James and Eliza resided in Canton, Easton and Sharon, the latter being their home many years until their deaths. Their house was on Pond Street not far from the Town Hall. He and his brother Lewis were, for a time, boot and shoe makers in Sharon. He lived quietly with his garden and chickens and he and his wife cared for boarders both in Easton and in Sharon which for some years was considered a health resort. He died May 8, 1882, aged 73. His wife died Feb. 7, 1893, aged 79.

They had: (1) James Francis, Feb. 13, 1834; (2) George Henry, Dec. 7 1835; (3) Nahum Capen, Aug. 10, 1842.

GEORGE HENRY (2) married Mary West Taber of New Bedford. They had no children. He went to Chile and Otahiti, a French Island in the Pacific, and for a time was with his mother's brother who was in business in Otahiti and well to do. George served in the Union Army for four years in the Civil War, a part of the time under Generals Butler and Sheridan. He was a sergeant. After that he was a house painter. He spoke Spanish. He was an active member of the G. A. R. and missed few of their annual conventions. He died at his home in Fairhaven, Mass., March 7, 1902.

NAHUM CAPEN (3) married Ida Whittemore of Sharon March 17, 1865 and had: (1) Mabelle Ashley, July 23, 1865; (2) Marian Estelle, March 20, 1868; and (3) Maude Porter, March 5, 1871.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

Mabelle married June 20, 1886, Jesse A. O. Currier, born in East Unity, N. H. July 6, 1859 (mother, Julia A. Eddy). He had a printing business in Boston, then served on the Dedham Transcript for many years. They lived in Westwood until Mrs. Currier's death. He died at his daughter's home in Cambridge March 7, 1941. They had: (1) Harold Richards who died when about 30; (2) Julia Frances, Aug. 21, 1894, (now lives in Cambridge); and (3) Elmer Hathaway, who is in the optical business in Boston.

Marian died in infancy.

Maude married George E. Boyden of Boston July 3, 1893. They lived in Somerville and Tarrytown, N. Y. They had: (1) Richard Pierpont, July 25, 1896; (2) Edmund Ashley, Sept. 26, 1905; (3) Maude Frances, Aug. 22, 1909.

Nahum Capen (3) died in 1872, about a year after the birth of Maude. He was never strong after a "hip disease," which made him lame. His wife, Ida, was born Jan. 29, 1845, died at the Currier's home in Westwood in 1938. Nahum owned a home in North Easton where he was employed by O. Ames & Sons. He later purchased a home in Sharon. He was somewhat of an artist and sold some portraits painted by himself.

JAMES FRANCIS RICHARDS

1834-1905

SEVENTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



James Francis
Richards

Hattie Pettee
Richards

Ella Richards
McLean

Mary Richards
Packard

CORRECTIONS

Page 29, Line 10—Lewis died January 6, 1903.

Page 45, Line heading, SIXTH GENERATION.

Page 52, Line 6—Mary (Mrs. Hall) was a daughter of
Maria Peck

Page 55, Line 7—Apoplectic stroke.

Line 15—George Donnell McLean.

Page 56, Line 4—From Bottom: Ida was buried at Bell-
ingham.

Page 61, Line Heading, EIGHTH GENERATION.

Page 70, Line 7—(Omission) Florence was born Decem-
ber 22, 1905, at Bolton, Mass.

Page 77, Line 1—Maine, not Mass.

Page 91, Line 4—(Substitute): He is an Underwood, not
a Ross or Richards.

James Francis Richards

JAMES FRANCIS RICHARDS was born in Canton, Mass., on February 13, 1834, in a house on the east side of Washington St. (Belcher property) near the Sharon line, about one-half mile north of Cobb's Tavern in East Sharon. He died of a heart attack, following hardening of the arteries, on June 24, 1905, aged 71, at his home, Washington and Walnut Sts., Canton. According to his and his mother's wishes, he was buried beside his parents in the Chestnut Hill Cemetery in Sharon.

He was of somewhat light complexion, blue eyes, medium height, light weight but tough, wiry and a hard worker. He always wore a beard. In late years he was quite deaf and had poor eyesight as result of his work, having cataracts removed from both eyes. His health was very good through life with no organic ailments until the end.

He was of animated temperment and talk, serious minded, was well read and interested in politics and religion. He was a staunch Republican. His well marked Bible is preserved. He went to a local academy and aspired to be a sea captain. He studied navigation and his sextant is preserved. He served on a New Bedford whaling ship before he was married at the age of 22. He went to work for O. Ames & Sons, shovel factory in North Easton, and later in Canton where the Ames concern also had a factory. Here he had responsibilities of maintenance and production records although continuing as a welder. Later he also operated the farm in addition to his regular duties. He retired after nearly fifty years service at which time he was presented with a cash gift by Mr. Oakes Ames. The demand for shovels during the Civil War and his growing family necessitated his giving up all ambitions for a

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

sea-going career which we believe was a disappointment to him.

He married Harriet Newhall Pettee of Boston on Sept. 6, 1856, at North Easton, having met her at her sister Hannah's home, Mrs. Jason Andrews, of North Easton. She was a small, very active woman favored with unusual energy.

Harriet, city bred, liked active town life and probably was as disappointed with the farm life as was James with making shovels instead of commanding a ship. However, both mastered their tasks, and labored faithfully to bring up their large family in a Christian atmosphere. Both were active members of the Canton Baptist Church. Harriet Newhall Richards died at Canton on Oct. 2, 1913, aged 76 years, of general physical debility. Her mind was keen and active to the end. She was buried in the family lot in Rock Ridge Cemetery in Sharon.

Harriet was the youngest daughter of James Pettee, whose father was also James, a fisherman and caterer and Mary Moncrief. Harriet was born on August 18, 1837, at the Pettee home on or near Fort Hill Square, Boston. Her father and a brother were lost at sea. Her brother, James (3rd), was a boat builder and later superintendent of streets in Cohasset, Mass. He married Mary Nichols of Hingham. Their home was near the "Black Rocks" on Jerusalem Road which he built. They had three daughters and a son, Warren, a member of the shoe firm of Batchelder & Lincoln, Boston. The latter had a son Gardner. James had another brother, George Henry, a hat manufacturer of Boston and East Foxboro who had a son, Lincoln. The sisters were Hannah (Mrs. Andrews), Maria (Mrs. Peck) of So. Boston and Roslindale, and Mary (Mrs. Hall). There are now no living Pettee sons of this family.

The PETTEE family is an early one in this country, having the same general history, as well as a notable pre-American history, as do other splendid early American families. There is a variety of spellings: Pettee, Petty, Pitty, Pittee.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

Pettit, etc. Morse's Genealogy of the Pettee family, "Register of Several Ancient Puritans", fails to show any James Pettee, probably because of his drowning with no burial record. Morse traces the descendents of William Pitty and notes the different spellings used by the family. John Pettit lived in Roxbury, 1634-1643. It is interesting to find at least five Richards-Pettee marriages as follows: (1) Nathaniel Pettee of Weymouth and Mary Richards, 1745; (2) Seth Pettee Esq. of Dorchester and Amy Richards, 1812; (3) Fred Richards of New Hartford and Sarah Joanna Pettee, 1853; (4) Daniel Richards married Hannah Pettee, both of Sharon and (5) James Francis Richards and Harriet Pettee, as here recorded.

The Moncrief's (also Moncrieffe) are found "on the wrong side" (Tory) of the Revolutionary War. A Margaret Moncrief is said to have associated with Revolutionary officers and transmitted information to her father and he to the British. There were eleven Moncriefs in England who were Baronets.

HARRIET PETTEE was of medium complexion, blue-grey eyes, oval face, weighed less than one hundred pounds, great vitality, nervous temperament, had a keen and discerning mind that saw through the humbugs of individuals, society and human affairs.

As a mother of twelve children, ten living to mature age with good health, she disclosed remarkable vitality and basic good health although in later years she suffered various nervous, intestinal and catarrhal ailments which did not impair her activity.

The first home of James Francis and Harriet was in Easton. When transferred to the Canton factory they bought the Hollis home on Bay Road, East Sharon, of Nelson Richards, about one mile south of Cobb's Tavern. It was later owned by Wm. Taunt. They then moved to Canton into a house on the hill on Bolivar Street near the shovel factory. In 1879 they moved to the old Benjamin Richards farm in East Sharon and in 1891 back to Canton.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

CHILDREN

James and Harriet Richards had twelve children as follows:

1. ALICE FRANCES; born Dec. 19, 1857 at Easton, Mass. Died at Gorham, Maine, April 24, 1921. Age 63 years, 4 months.

2. HATTIE MARIA; born Dec. 28, 1859 at Easton, Mass. Died Sept. 5, 1867 at Sharon. Age 7 years, 8 months. Buried in Rock Ridge Cemetery in Sharon.

3. ELLA GERTRUDE; born July 28, 1862 at Bay Road, E. Sharon. Died Dec. 9, 1939 at Mount Vernon, Washington. Age 77 years, 4 months.

4. IDA LOUISA; born March 28, 1864 at Bay Road, E. Sharon. Died at Bellingham, Washington, April 4, 1923.

5. MARY ELIZA; born Oct. 17, 1865 at Bay Road, E. Sharon. Lives in LaConnor, Wash.

6. EDITH LILLIAN; born Jan. 11, 1869 at Bay Road, E. Sharon. Died at Stoughton, Mass., Feb. 1, 1928. Age 59.

7. ARTHUR WESTCATE; born July 16, 1871 at Bolivar St., Canton. Lives in New Paltz, N. Y.

8. RALPH WALDO; born Jan. 5, 1873 at Bolivar St., Canton. Lives in Canton, Mass.

9. HOWARD AUGUSTUS; born April 4, 1875 at Bolivar St., Canton. Died Jan. 25, 1876, at Canton. Age 10 months. Buried in Rock Ridge Cemetery in Sharon.

10. BENJAMIN (3rd); born Sept. 26, 1877 at Bolivar St., Canton. Lives in Kenilworth, Ill.

11. ALFRED BILLINGS; born March 12, 1879, at Bolivar St., Canton. Lives in Bremerton, Wash.

12. HARRIET MENA; born Feb. 15, 1882, on the Benjamin Richards farm, E. Sharon. Lives in Mount Vernon, Wash.

(1) ALICE FRANCES was dark complexioned, of the Richards type. She married Embert Lawrence Jones of Boston in 1896. He was born in Ashland, Mass., son of Geo. W. and Clara Jennings Jones. They lived in Boston and Portland, Maine, later buying a home in Gorham, Maine, where Mr.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

Jones was manager of a store. He also was an artist, musician and composer. One of his paintings is in the Church at Gorham where he played the organ. He was also Justice of the Peace. He died Oct. 22, 1930 on his 73rd birthday. Alice was active in church and social work. Although having kidney trouble she was up and about the day she died, her death following an epileptic stroke within a few hours. Aged 63 years, 4 months, 5 days. Both are buried in Gorham. They had no children.

(3) ELLA GERTRUDE was dark complexioned, of the Richards type. After graduating from High School and special training courses she taught in the Crane School in Canton and in Natick. She then went to Topeka, Kansas, taking a position with Thomas E. Bowman in his bank there. She married George Donald McLean, widower, who was also with the Topeka Bank, Oct. 17, 1888. They removed to Mount Vernon, Wash., where they operated successfully a real estate, abstract and banking business for many years and did much to build up the town and district. They had a farm home, later building a town home on Warren Street. She was a good horsewoman, active in local affairs, particularly interested in the Public Library, and was an active member of the local Presbyterian Church. She travelled in Europe, Hawaii and Alaska. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She played golf on her 70th birthday. They had no children. He died on June 27, 1923, age 72 years, 11 months, and she Dec. 9, 1939, aged 77 years, 4 months, 11 days. They are interned in the Mausoleum, Mt. Vernon.

EXCERPTS FROM THE ADDRESS OF REV. DR. A. W. WILSON
Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Mount Vernon, Washington
AT THE FUNERAL OF MRS. GEORGE D. McLEAN
(Ella Gertrude Richards)

DECEMBER 12, 1939

There is something in heredity. We all know that blood will tell. The old New England heritage is as staple and as true to type as the Concord grape. Mrs. McLean is an illustration. Born in the old Bay Colony, one of a family of twelve children descended from parents who had real convictions concerning home and church and state, who believed in inalienable rights and in their corollary, inescapable respon-

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

sibilities, she carried forward the ancestry placed in her hands. The light which that torch threw we all know. Fifty years in this community is certainly sufficient to reveal every trait of character, every grace of personality any life can possess.

We all knew this friendly lady. She was known in business. In pioneer days she had no small part in the commercial life of this community—. She had a real place in the educational life of the town of Mount Vernon. The oldest and most consistently cultural woman's club of this community was an outgrowth of her suggestion and her interest in historical topics. She had a distinct place in the social life of this neighborhood. The McLean home was always a center of clean fellowship and wholesome enjoyment. Without being bookish she was always up to the times in that which was of and for good literature. The city library had years of her thoughtful attention. Someone has said that the New England character was marked by five I's: individuality, industry, initiative, intelligence and integrity. I am certain that this was not always true, but I am sure that it was in the case of Mrs. McLean.

There is something in religion—there are those who though they say little and are inconspicuous in what they do, yet demonstrate its reality. Mrs. McLean was one of these. To me and to a multitude of other men and women she was a demonstration of a faith that purifies and glorifies human life. True religion makes one charitable in opinion. Mrs. McLean was such. True religion makes one calm under adversity. Mrs. McLean was this also. Some eight or ten years ago her doctor told her that the cataracts in her eyes would probably result in blindness in a few months. The news did not result in mental panic. She immediately resolved that blindness should not cut her off from the Word of God—and picked out certain Psalms and certain chapters from the Gospels and Epistles and committed them to memory. I purposely picked one Scripture passage for this service from those which she committed to memory. True religion also makes one sweet under affliction. —It does seem that she had her full share in recent years. A broken spine caused months in the hospital. A paralytic stroke made her an invalid for two and a half years. But it did not make her bitter for one instant. To the last conscious day her home was a place of delight and of pleasant comradeship—. I suggest that today as you pass this casket and look at this intelligent, cultured, kindly face, you ask yourself whose image is imprinted there. Verily you will find the marks of the Lord Jesus.

(4) IDA LOUISA was the Keen type, rather large and of light complexion. She lived at home for several years, being employed in Dunbar's box factory in Canton. She then removed to Mount Vernon, Wash. She married George Mathew Rogers of Everett, Wash., Feb. 22, 1898. They later moved to Bellingham, Wash. She was an active member of the Canton Baptist Church. She joined the Christian Science faith after removing to Washington. She died of internal cancer, age 59 years, 7 days. She is buried in the Mausoleum at Everett, Wash.

Mr. Rogers was born in Monroe, Wis., son of Mathew Stillman Rogers (from Ohio) and Fanny E. (Williams) Rogers

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

of Hartford, Wis. He died at Everett on Aug. 21, 1939. They had no children.

(5) MARY ELIZA is very like her mother in looks and energy but is tall and fuller in statue. After graduating from High School taught in Easton and Sharon. She married Warren Sherman Packard of Sharon, son of Dexter and Abigail (Phinney) Packard, Dec. 25, 1889. Warren associated with his father who, with his brother Jonathan, operated the three Lothrop knife and trowel factories in Sharon. Mr. Packard was a direct descendant of John Alden. Warren Sherman and Mary removed to Mount Vernon, Washington, in 1890, where Mr. Packard was associated with Mr. McLean and the First National Bank. He later removed to LaConner, Wash., where he was manager of a local bank. He died there on October 6, 1930 of heart failure. He was a lover of nature and an accomplished woodsman and musician. He was an A.F.&A.M.

Mary still lives at their home in LaConner and has a summer home at Snee Oosh. She is very active in the church, where she has played the organ for many years. She is active in public affairs and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Eastern Star.

They had: (1) Evelyn, born June 21, 1893 in Mount Vernon; (2) Dexter Richards, born April 10, 1900, and (3) Benjamin Francis, born June 28, 1906. The latter died on Sept. 9, 1914 of spinal meningitis.

(1) EVELYN married Ernest M. Jones, a dentist now having charge of dental instruction in the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and who is a leader in his profession. They live in Glendale and have two daughters, Shirley and Dorothea.

(2) Dexter Richards was graduated from the engineering school of Washington University. He is an engineer with the Western Factory Insurance Association of Chicago and lives in Chicago. He married Helen Kerry of Chicago. They have no children.

(6) EDITH LILLIAN was dark complexioned, oval face

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

like Alice, blue-grey eyes. She lived at home for some years, being employed by Ginn & Co., school book publishers of Boston. She married John Augustus Wayland of Stoughton on Jan. 44, 1893. They lived in their home on Seaver Street, Stoughton for many years where they both died. He was successful in the fish business. She died of cancer on Feb. 1, 1928 after a long and painful illness, aged 59 years, 21 days. She was active in the Universalist Church and had a strong character, always for the right and against the wrong. She is buried in Stoughton. Mr. Wayland died Jan. 30, 1940, age 82.

They had: (1) Twins, died at birth (note twins in Keen family); (2) Irma, born June 10, 1898. She lives in the home and is with the First National Bank of Boston. She is unmarried.

(7) ARTHUR WESTCATE, born July 16, 1871. (See separate family section).

(8) RALPH WALDO, born Jan. 5, 1873. (See separate family section.)

(9) HOWARD AUGUSTUS, born April 4, 1875. Died Jan. 25, 1876.

(10) BENJAMIN (3rd), born Sept. 26, 1877. (See separate family section.)

(11) ALFRED BILLINGS, born March 12, 1879. (See separate family section.)

It will be noted that James and Harriet did not follow the custom of using family and Bible names for all their children. Frances was from Francis in her father's name. Hattie Maria was from the common use of Hattie for Harriet and Maria was from the sister of the mother. Ida was from her uncle Nahum's wife. Mary and Eliza were from the great-grandmother and grandmother on the mother's side. Benjamin is the third use of the name in direct line. Alfred was from a great uncle and Billings was the great-grandmother's maiden name. Harriet was named for her mother's friend, Harriet Prescott, although her mother's name was the same, and

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

Mena was the name of a nurse and maid of whom the mother was very fond.

(12) HARRIET MENA was the only child of the family born on the old homestead in East Sharon. After graduating from the Canton High School she attended a Boston Business College and accepted a secretarial position. For fifteen years she was associated with the Northfield Schools and Summer Conference at East Northfield, Mass., for several years in charge of the Summer Conferences publicity. Forced to resign this position because of ill health she took residence with her sister, Ella R. McLean in Mount Vernon, Wash., and upon her sister's death purchased a small house in that city. She travelled in the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, England and Europe. A number of feature writings and poems of her authorship have appeared in national publications. In her business life Harriet was said "to possess a man's mind," but her natural interests, taste, and enjoyment were artistic, which tinted her outlook throughout life. By temperament and lack of normal physical strength she was not as extensively active as she was interested in social and public affairs. However, she was in early life active in the Baptist Church in Canton, with which the family was associated. While essentially Christian, she had a strong aversion to sectarianism.

ARTHUR WESTCATE RICHARDS

1871-

NINTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



Arthur Westcate
Richards

Ethel Reed
Richards

Hattie Hall
Reed

Charles Alexander
Reed



HARBOR LODGE

Tenants Harbor, Me.

Summer Home of Arthur W. Richards

1903 to 1916

Birthplace of Melvin Lewis and Leonard Martin



PICTURE OF WOODHOLM

Mile Square Road, Yonkers, N. Y.

Home of Arthur W. Richards 1907-20

Built by him 1907

Arthur Westcate Richards

He was born in Canton, Mass., July 16, 1871. His appearance and personality are distinctly Pettee: round face, Pettee chin, light brown hair, bald at 20, moderate in stature—height 5'8", weight about 137 pounds, blue gray eyes, nervous temperment, cordial and affectionate disposition and, though humorous and jolly, he is serious minded, analytical, inventive (two patents) and constructive minded in both mechanical and social matters.

While his aptitude is strongly mechanical, he became interested in human social affairs, religion, politics, ethics, social problems and especially government. He is a liberal in religion, politics and disposition, a thorough believer in the basic principles of democracy, but a severe critic of some of its present and past practices and of its pretenses and shibboliths.

He is a member of A. F. & A. M., Society of Ethical Culture, N. Y., several civic and progressive government organizations, also was a member in several professional educational associations and was one time President of the School Crafts Club of New York City.

As a youth he was interested in sports, in boats and sailing, the latter through life, a circumstance with past and future heritage significance.

When about three years old pneumonia nearly ended his life, and for many years he was an ailing boy with intestinal and nervous troubles, which later in life gave occasional trouble, but as a whole he has enjoyed very good health and now at seventy-one and in retirement eleven years has been enjoying a pursuit and study of his interests in social problems.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

His career began with a country farm and school life when the family moved to the Benjamin Richards farm homestead at East Sharon in 1879 when he was eight years of age. When 13-14 he went to a city school in Boston and the next year began an apprenticeship at the machinist trade in a shop in Hyde Park, Mass., and worked as a machinist until he was 22, his last place of employment being in Waltham, Mass., where he went in 1890 and left in 1893, working last in the Waltham Watch Company. He then studied to become a teacher of manual training, in 1893-4 at the General Industrial School, Hamburg, Germany, and the Sloyd Seminarium, Naas, Sweden. Returning, he took a position in the Central High School, Minneapolis, Minn., for two years and at Portland, Me., for two years. He then, the school year of 1898-99, studied at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, and in Sept. 1899, accepted the position of Head of the Department of Mechanics Arts in the Ethical Culture School, then called the Workingman's School, where he continued for 32 years, retiring in 1931 at the age of 60. Since then he has devoted his time to the study, writing and work for better democratic government, especially organized citizenship.

Until about eight he lived in Canton, Mass., then moved to the old Richards farm in East Sharon, living there until 1890 when he moved to Waltham, Mass., staying there until 1893, then to the various places in accordance with the above references. After marriage he lived in apartments in New York, from 1899 till 1905, in Yonkers (Lincoln Park) 1905-7, and in 1907 he built a home on Mile Square Road, Nepperhan Heights, Yonkers, named Woodholm in which he lived until 1920 when it was sold and he bought the farm at New Paltz, N. Y., called Farmholm where he and wife and his son Melvin and family are now living. The years of 1920-31 he lived in apartments in New York during the school year.

In 1903 he bought a place in Tenants Harbor, Maine, for

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

a summer residence which he held until 1921. He has spent five winters since 1934 at Sarasota, Fla.

Arthur married Ethel Marion Reed, of Waltham, Mass., June 14, 1900, in Grace Church. She is the daughter of Charles Alexander and Hattie Emma (Hall) Reed. The Hall family is of Springfield, Vt., and the Charles Reed family of Hampden, Maine.

Charles A. Reed was a carpenter and builder in Waltham for many years, and came from family that for several generations were pump, block and cabinet makers, some continuing the shops and businesses from father to son.

The Reeds are of an old New England family dating back to 1634, coming from England, having a pre-American history of good repute and having a splendid printed genealogy. This genealogy shows a clear and direct record from BRIANUS DeREDE living in 1139 in north England down to the first Reeds to come to America. ESDRAS, 1636 (Brookline, Salem, Wenham, Chelmsford and Boston), a tailor, was the first American ancestor of the Reeds of Hampden, Me. The direct line is:

ESDRAS, born 1595, died 1680. Tailor and business man.

Obadiah, 1639-1721. Carpenter.

JAMES, 1679-

JAMES, 1709- Boston. A pump and block maker. His sons, Thomas and Brackley, succeeded him. Shop at Oliver's Dock.

JAMES, 1736-1816. Milton. With father, a pump and block maker.

WILLIAM H., 1779-1858. Dorchester. Died Hampden, Me., age 82 years, 9 months.

CHARLES ALEXANDER, 1830. Hampden, Me. Died June 8, 1913, Yonkers, N. Y., Age 83.

The Hampden Reeds were mostly moderate of stature. Had small thin faces and necks, sharp chins, dark hair and eyes.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

The Halls of Vermont were all farmers and larger of stature, light hair, blue eyes, narrow faces (oval).

HATTIE (HALL) REED was born June 11, 1846 and died Dec. 3, 1926, Kingston, N. Y., hospital. Age 80 years, 7 months.

Charles and Hattie lived with Arthur and Ethel from 1903 to their last.

ARTHUR and ETHEL have three sons—

10.1 GERALD REED, born April 9, 1901 in New York City. Lives in Manhasset, L. I., N. Y. (See his family section)

10.2 MELVIN LEWIS (Lewis from Great Uncle Lewis Richards), born July 13, 1904 at Tenant's Harbor, Me. Lives at New Paltz, N. Y. (Farmholm) (See his family section).

10.3 LEONARD MARTIN (Martin from Great Uncle Martin Reed), born Aug. 15, 1906 at Tenant's Harbor, Me. Lives in Manoa, Pa. (Philadelphia) (See his family section.)

OMISSION

ETHEL MARION REED was born July 23, 1875, at Waltham, Mass.

She was dark complexioned, narrow face, brown eyes, medium of stature and weight, and very much a Reed type as to features, skin and mental traits. She lived at home until marriage, devoting herself to music, art and home crafts. A considerable lot of her hand painted china is now intended to go to her children and families along with other things, as rugs. She was very apt in the home crafts and constantly had some such work in hand.

Also she was very fond of flowers, plants and gardening, and the three homes she has had since marriage exhibited her tastes, interest and activities in these hobbies and offered her splendid opportunities for enjoying these.

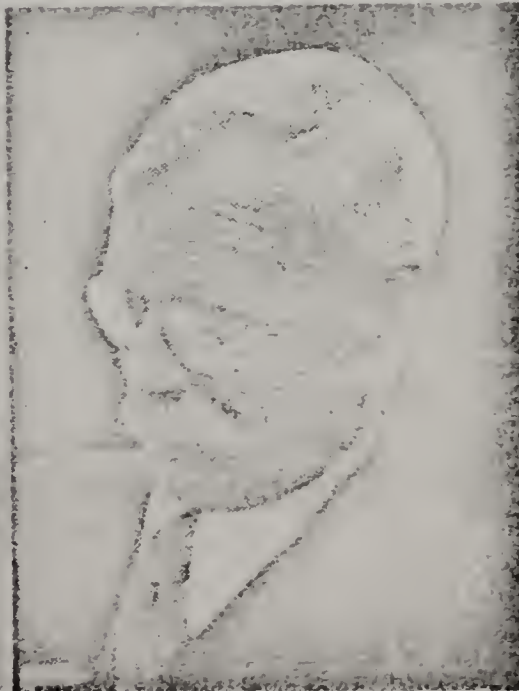
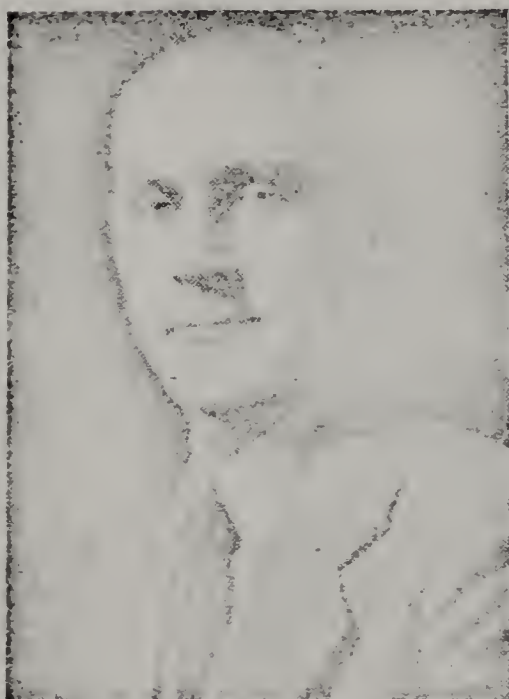
She has not been very strong or of good health generally, but a native constitutional vitality has enabled her to carry on wonderfully well.

She has been active in women's study and other clubs of her several home towns.

GERALD REED RICHARDS

1901-

NINTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



Gerald Reed
Richards

Florence Rowe
Richards

Edith Stearns
Rowe

Everet Rowe



HOME OF GERALD RICHARDS

182 Quaker Ridge Road,
Manhasset, L. I.

Built 1937

Gerald Reed Richards

GERALD has dark brown hair, graying and bald, has gray-blue eyes, and a round face resembling his Grandmother Hattie (Hall) Reed's. He is tall (6 ft.), large of frame, broad square shouldered and straight of posture. He is frank and direct mannered, a bit nervous and quick acting. He was a hard worker as a student and is the same now in business and is most always busy. He is systematic, orderly and thorough and is notably dependable and responsible.

His aptitude is in mechanical, engineering and craftsmanship lines. He is interested in boats and sailing from boyhood. Also he is interested in human affairs, social and civic, and has been a Boy Scout leader for some years in Flushing, L. I. He is a member of the Society of Mechanical Engineers.

His health was splendid as a child and in youth, but an attack of arthritis when he was about 26 continued a severe tax on his health and strength until of late years.

He attended the grade schools of Yonkers, N. Y., until 1915, and then the Ethical Culture School, New York, graduating from the High School in 1920. In 1924 he graduated M. E. from Stevens Institute of Technology. During his high school and engineering school years he spent summers, first at the summer place in Tenants Harbor, Me., in all sorts of activities, carpentering, boating, fishing, etc., and later in farm work at Farmholm, New Paltz. In 1924 he went with the Federal Ship Building Co., at Kearney, N. J., in the maintenance department, and in 1926 went with the American Chicle Co., Long Island City, where for about thirteen years he has been and is now factory superintendent.

After his marriage he lived at Jackson Heights and Flushing, L. I. He bought a new home in 1937 at Manhasset, L. I., (82 Quaker Ridge Road) where he now lives.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

He married Florence Edith Rowe of Bolton, Mass., June 20, 1932, daughter of Everet B. Rowe and Edith (Stearns) Rowe. Everet Rowe was a farmer, short of stature, round faced and light complexioned. Florence Rowe is short, tending to stout, has light brown hair, blue eyes, oval full face and head, has a bantering, cheerful disposition, and is very sociable and cordial.

They have one son, Gerald Reed, Jr., born March 6, 1934, at a Brooklyn, N. Y., hospital. He is tall, light complexioned, has gray blue eyes, an oval full freckled face, high forehead and in appearance is considerably like the Stearns type. His character traits, disposition and nervous make-up seem to have come from both sides of the family. He is keen minded, aggressive, pugnacious and dominating in play, which comes from his vigorous quick mind.

MELVIN LEWIS RICHARDS

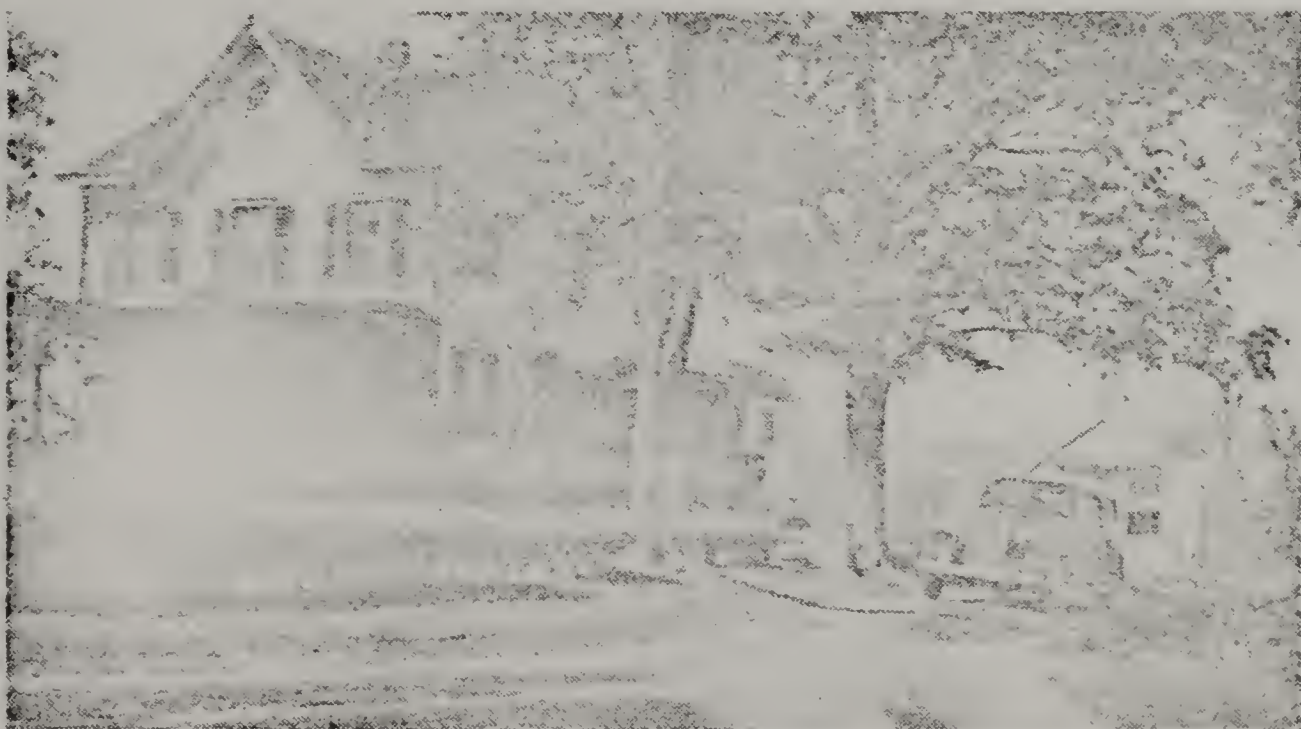
1904-

NINTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



Melvin Lewis
Richards

Ida Decker
Richards



FARMHOLM

New Paltz, N. Y.

Bought 1920

Home of Melvin R. Richards from 1923

Summer home of Arthur W. Richards 1920-1931
and all year home after 1931.

Melvin Lewis Richards

MELVIN is distinctly of the Hall family type, resembling very closely in face and features, Edward Hall, his grandmother Hattie Hall Reed's brother. He has a light, sandy complexion, rather small, keen, gray-blue eyes, is somewhat bald, has a rather long neck, is tall and slim but powerful and wiry, and is vigorous and quick in thought and action. He has a keen analytical and planning mind, and is fair minded. He is a hard, driving worker, strong in enterprize and venture. He is a decided individualist who must plan and work his own way. He is cordial and social in disposition. He has enjoyed very good general health, but has had some bad intestinal troubles which came from extreme hard work, but at this date seems to be in good condition.

He attended the grade schools in Yonkers, N. Y., until 1916, then for five years attended the Ethical Culture School, finishing the High School 1921 and about a year later spent most of the school year at Cornell University School of Agriculture, specializing in the Dairy Department. During his school years he worked on the farm summers, previously spending summers at Tenants Harbor where splendid outdoor activities prevailed.

He then took over the operation of the farm at New Paltz and bought a milk route in that town, operating it for several years, then selling it. After about three years this was taken back for failure on contract payments and he has operated it since. During the three years when the dairy business was out of his hands he tried several enterprizes. He worked in the meat departments of stores, tried a meat route and town market which did not prove successful.

At this time the farm business consists of the milk route, a kennel (Great Danes) business operated by his wife, Ida, and

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

a buying, selling and trucking business, mostly in hay, bought up-state and sold nearer New York.

He seems to be a Richards (by name) come back to farming at a time, in the East, when farming has come to a low economic status with difficult and adverse economic, social and political conditions facing it.

He has lived at Farmholm, New Paltz, since 1921. He married Ida Margaret Decker of Gardiner, N. Y., July 13, 1926, at Farmholm. She was the daughter of Frank and Geraldine (Walbridge) Decker.

FRANK DECKER was a farmer of a farming family long settled in Southern Ulster County. Ida's mother was the daughter of an English minister who, with his family, was a late emigrant to this country from England. This family has scattered widely since. Ida was born May 15, 1903, at Gardiner. Her family home was about a mile south of Farmholm. She is dark complexioned, has gray blue eyes, and an oval face. She is large of frame and tall of stature, and has a very pleasing personality. Her mother died when she was about ten years old and she had to become the mother of the family of three brothers, which burden increased when later her father died suddenly by accident.

MELVIN and IDA have four daughters and one son, all born at the Kingston City Hospital. They are: Fay Lois, born May 11, 1929; Geraldine Marion, born Sept. 24, 1930; Norman Arthur, born April 11, 1935; Elaine Irene, born May 1, 1939, and Diane Jeanette, born Aug. 26, 1941.

FAY is very light complexioned, has gray blue eyes, a round face, is very tall for her age, and shows marked artistic abilities.

GERALDINE is dark complexioned, like her mother in several ways, has hazel eyes and a rather small, round face. She is even taller for her age than Fay. She shows aptitude in practical ways, cooking, etc., and in school activities.

NORMAN is light complexioned with a round face and

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

fine features, much like his father at the same age in both looks and temperament.

Elaine is light complexioned, oval, rather full face, clear blue eyes, has a keen, responsive mind and is very original and playful. She is a most lovely child.

DIANE, now the baby, seems to be following suit.

LEONARD MARTIN RICHARDS

1906-

NINTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD

AND FAMILY





Home of Leonard Martin Richards

313 Walnut Hill Lane, Upper Darby, Pa.

Bought new 1939.

Leonard Martin Richards

He was born August 15, 1906, at Tenants Harbor, Mass. He is distinctly a Richards excepting statue and weight (see photos of Uncles Lewis and Alfred). He has dark hair, gray blue eyes, long oval full face, is tall—6 ft.—well built, weight about 170 pounds. He is slow starting but gets there. He was an able student, quick to learn, good in mathematics, science, etc. He possesses mechanical, designing and craftsmans aptitudes and likes good workmanship, neatness and good art. In high school he was active in sports and has a strong interest in boats and sailing like his father, grandfather on mother's side (a fisherman), and grandfather on father's side (a whaler), also his great uncle on father's side (a boat builder).

His health was in general very good in childhood, youth and manhood. When about 25 he developed sinus trouble which continues somewhat to date.

He attended the Public Schools of Yonkers, N. Y. to the 8th grade and the Ethical Culture School, New York, 8th grade through High School, graduating 1923. He spent summers at Tenants Harbor, Me.. to 1916, getting excellent experiences as a boy including boating, fishing and outdoor life, and worked on the farm summers at New Paltz from 1920 until he went to work, about 1925, taking a position with a private naval architect in Philadelphia. there designing and supervising construction of yachts to 1931. During the depression of 1929-36 he was two years (1931-33) at Farmholm, New Paltz selling and repairing farm electric equipment.

In September, 1933, he went with the U. S. Coast Guard at Washington as naval draughtsman, but within a year was called to the navy yard, Philadelpha, 1934, as draughtsman, and soon was in charge of a squad of men; 1939, he was pro-

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

moted to Associate Naval Architect; and in January, 1940, promoted to Naval Architect and head of small boat division. He lived at home until 1926, Philadelphia, 1926 to 1931, home to 1933, Washington, 1933-4, Philadelphia 1934 to date. He bought a new house in 1939 at Manoa, Westgate Hills, 313 Walnut Hill Lane, and moved in November 4, 1939.

Married Marion Clara Lang of Philadelphia, Dec. 23, 1933. She was born Sept. 15, 1910 in Philadelphia and died Jan. 2, 1949 at Westgate Hills of sudden pneumonia. She was the daughter of Harry A. and Clara Lang of Philadelphia, both German, Harry a locomotive engineer. Clara of Meissener family.

Marion had very dark hair and eyes, was very tall, slim, very tall, slim, not of good health, nervous and high strung.

They had two sons, both of Lang type:

(1) LEONARD MARTIN, Jr. Born Jan. 4, 1935, Philadelphia. Dark hair, oval full face, brown eyes, well built and large for age. Keen mind and strong language faculty.

(2) WESLEY ROBERT. Born Dec. 15, 1937, Philadelphia. Brown hair, brown eyes, round face, stocky body, slow at talking.

LEONARD MARTIN married on July 12, 1941, at Millsboro, Del., Mrs. Mildred Steele Reynolds of Wilmington, Delaware, daughter of Victor L. Steele and Nellie G. Jaster Steele of Millsboro, Del.

MILDRED was born June 30, 1907. She is dark complexioned, brown eyes, oval face, medium in height and stature, is energetic and possesses many aptitudes, especially in the home crafts. She is very fond of sports, and her hobby is giving monologues at women's clubs and auxiliaries.

She has had some eight years of business experience most of this being as buyer for a department store in Wilmington, Del., this involving considerable taste and business responsibility.

She has a son, Roger Reynolds, who has red hair and blue eyes and is about ten years old.

RALPH WALDO RICHARDS

1873-

EIGHTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



RALPH WALDO RICHARDS

Ralph Waldo Richards

He was born Jan. 5, 1873, at Canton, Mass.

Ralph appears to be a Keen type, but might well be an early Richards, resembling, especially in voice and speech, his uncles, Lewis and Alfred, but he has a round head and face and very light hair, and also is larger and stouter than the old Richards men generally or the Pettees. His eyes are gray blue. He is of very cheerful and optimistic nature and faces all troubles in life unworried and with faith in God. He has musical interests, having sung in the church choir about all of his life and has been a member of the Canton Baptist church continuously during that time.

He is fond of flowers and gardening and out door home life.

His health has been remarkably good to date, age 69.

When a youth he learned the carpenter's trade but soon went into the wholesale hardware business with prominent firms in Boston, where he has continued for the past 50 years, now being price expert with an old house. Ralph has lived in Canton most all his life and mostly in a house he built on Independence St.

He married, first, Flora Rebecca Sawyer, of Canton, April 18, 1895, daughter of Freeman J. Sawyer, of Canton, her mother being a Pitcher. Flora was born March 18, 1877, and died June 27, 1930, age 53, in Waverly Sanitarium. Her mind failed her permanently, but her physical health was very good.

RALPH and FLORA had two daughters and three sons:

10.4 HELEN INEZ, born Feb. 7, 1896, at Canton, Mass.

She married Truman James Lyon, Nov. 17, 1917, who was born Oct. 27, 1896 at Danielson, Ct. Son of James Herbert (born in Canterbury, Ct.) and Laura E. Wood of Sterling Ct. Truman is an engineer and shop superintendent for B. & A. R. R. Lives at Albany, N. Y. Their children are:

(1) RUTH, born Aug. 28, 1919 in Homeopathic Hospital, Boston.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

(2) HERBERT WOOD, born May 4, 1922 at 23 Arden Street, Allston, Mass.

(3) ROBERTA, born February 28, 1925 at Allston.

10.5 HOWARD FREEMAN, born April 10, 1899 at Canton.

Married ETHEL WATSON, daughter of Admiral H. Watson of Perry, Me. Ethel, born in Holliston, Mass. Her mother was Eva Lillian (Brown) Watson, born in Nova Scotia.

Ethel was active in the Baptist Church. Howard served overseas in the war, 1916-18, in Germany and England. Was a farmer in Perry. Now living in Canton.

They have three boys:

(1) RAY MILTON. Born July 6, 1926.

(2) KENNETH DALE. Born April 9, 1929.

(3) HOWARD FREEMAN, JR. Born July 15, 1931.

10.6 RALPH WALDO, 2nd., born February 8, 1901 at Canton. Bachelor. Lives with his father.

10.7 RUTH IRENE, born July 16, 1902 at Canton, Mass. She married BRUCE ALLYN PHELPS of Canton, April 2nd, 1923. They now live in the John Geissler home at the corner of Bay Road and Belcher St., East Sharon. They have (Jan. 1942) one boy and one girl:

(1) ROBERT RICHARDS, born Jan. 27, 1925.

(2) BEATRICE, Born Aug. 16, 1929.

10.8 CHARLES LEWIS, born June 19, 1903 at Canton. Married DOROTHY ELLIOT WINSLOE of Mattapan (Boston) March 20, 1925. Daughter of John A. Winsloe. Children:

(1) ELLIOT, born May 15, 1927.

(2) CHARLES LEWIS, JR., born Sept. 26, 1931.

(3) JAMES FRANCIS, born Feb. 1, 1936.

Ralph Waldo mairried, 2nd, Annabelle Smith of Canton in Baltimore, Md., Aug. 28, 1941. He^r father, grandfather and brother were all John Smith. She was born in Culter, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. Her mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Harper. Both of her parents were born in Scotland.

They are living in Ralph's home, Canton, Mass.

BENJAMIN RICHARDS III

1877-

EIGHTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



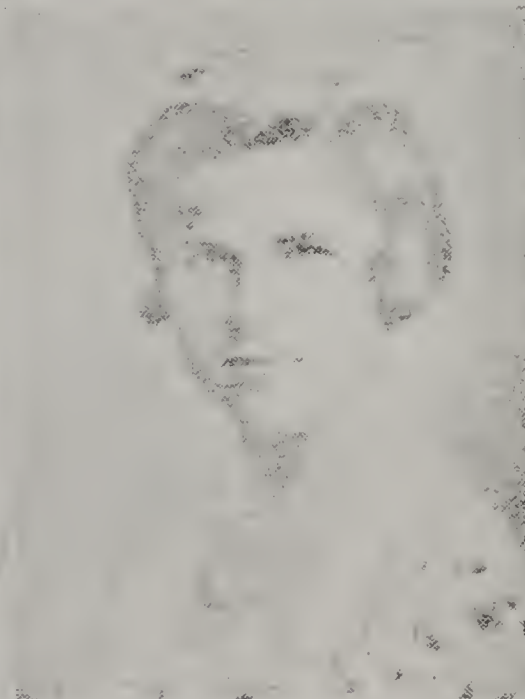
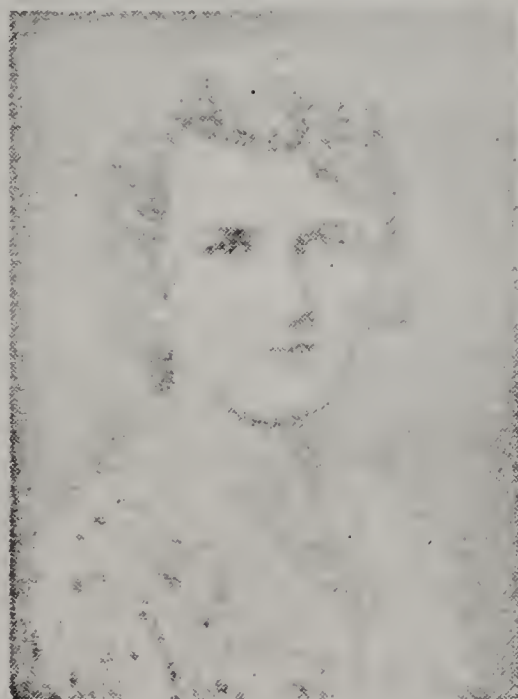
Benjamin Richards

Margaret Ross
Richards

Marian Underwood
Ross

Dr. George Ivison
Ross

CHILDREN OF
BENJAMIN RICHARDS III



Truman
Margaret
Virginia

Winthrop
Cynthia
Benjamin IV

Benjamin Richards III

BENJAMIN 3rd was born September 6, 1877 at Canton, Mass. He married MARGARET ISABEL ROSS of Canton, December 16, 1903. She was born Sept. 22, 1880 in Canterbury, Conn., the daughter of Dr. George Ivison Ross and Marian Etta (Underwood) Ross. Dr. Ross was born in the Custom House, New Port, R. I., May 26, 1847. He died in Canton Sept. 16, 1914, and was buried in Danielson, Conn., as was Marian Etta Ross. George Ivison was the son of David Ross, custom house officer at New Port, Conn.^{R. I.}; who was born in Inverness, Scotland, and Mary Ivison, born in Carlyle, England. Marion Underwood was born in Pomfret, Conn., died in Canterbury, Conn., about two weeks after the birth of Marian Etta (2nd) on May 17, 1884. Marian Etta (2nd) married William Hannum of Provincetown, Mass. Margaret was a very calm, quiet and pleasing person, of dark complexion and eyes, oval face, and was a real mother.

Benjamin 3rd is distinctly a Richards, resembling his great uncles Lewis and Alfred, and his Grandfather James Madison, very much in shape of face, features, etc., and in manners and speech.

After High School he went with the Factory Mutual Insurance Company's Inspection Department, Boston, Mass. Feb. 1, 1895, serving as clerk, draughtsman, surveyor, in the testing laboratory. In 1905 he became Inspector and Assistant manager with the Underwriter's Bureau of New England, Boston, Mass. In 1918 he became Chief Engineer with the Western Factory Association, Chicago, Ill. And since 1923 has been Manager of the Underwriter's Service Association, Chicago.

His technical education was acquired in night schools, and he was a graduate of the New Bedford Textile School.

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

An Expert on Industrial, especially factory fire hazards and protection, he travelled some twenty years over all states and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. He was a lecturer and writer, was Chairman of the Manufacturing Hazards Committee, N. F. P. A., for many years, Secretary of the Insurance Institute of America for eight years, President, Insurance Club of Chicago, Ill., now a member of the Executives Club, Chicago, and A. F. & A. M.

He sang bass in choirs and choruses, and is now a member of Chicago Association of Commerce Glee Clubs.

Benjamin, 3rd and Margaret lived with Dr. Ross in Canton for a few months when first married, then in a leased house owned by George Belcher, Park St., Soughton, and then went to a leased apartment, 80 Greenwood St., Mt. Bowden, Dorchester (Boston), where Ross and Truman were born. They then bought a house on Sherman Ave., Canton, where Winthrop was born. While living here the twins, Margaret and Cynthia were born, in a private hospital, Dorchester, and Virginia in the Canton Hospital (formerly the Dunbar home), on High St.

The Sherman Avenue house was sold and the Mooney estate, house and two acres on Leonard St., Canton was purchased, where the family lived until moving to 638 Abbotsford Road, Kenilworth, Ill., which was purchased and is still their home.

Benjamin (3rd) and Margaret had four sons and three daughters:

10.10 ROSS, born April 12, 1907. (See his family section.)

10.11 TRUMAN, born Aug. 19, 1909. He is tall, dark complexioned, round face, quiet and is of the Richards type generally. He is musical, has excellent memory. He is a bachelor, now living with his parents at Kenilworth. His education was a business course, University of Illinois, (Zeta Psi) and he is now with the U. S. Gypsum Company, Chicago. When in High School he played French Horn in the School

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

band, and also played on the band in the University of Illinois.

10.12 WINTHROP, born May 16, 1911. (Continued, see his family section.)

10.13 MARGARET, born (twin) July 10, 1913. Margaret is jolly, plump, rather light complexioned, is much like her uncle Ralph, Great Grandmother Richards, and Aunt Ida. Margaret was educated beyond High School in the Northern Illinois State Teachers College and taught in a Private Kindergarten for a time.

She was married July, 1934, to Howard Cassell Heaton, of Kenilworth, Ill., who was born Aug. 18, 1908, son of Herman Creel Heaton, born in Jeffersonville, Ind., and Ada Cassell Heaton, born in New Albany, Ind.

10.14 CYNTHIA, born (twin) July 10, 1913. She is plump, round face, dark complexioned, very quiet and of the Richards type, like Truman.

Beyond High School she was educated at Northern Illinois State Teachers College and Business College. She is unmarried and lives with her parents at Kenilworth. She is a physician's assistant.

10.15 VIRGINIA, born Feb. 16, 1918. Virginia is dark complexioned, somewhat like Winthrop. She is small of stature nervous and active, and musical.

She was educated in Francis Shimer Junior College, Mt. Carroll, Ill.

Virginia is unmarried and lives with her parents at Kenilworth. She is employed with the C. & N. W. R. R.

10.16 BENJAMIN (4th), was born July 12, 1921. He is tall and large of stature, dark complexioned and round face and head, a very Richards type. He is interested in mechanics and boats, and is an excellent draughtsman. He is now studying in the ^{Aero} Industries Technical Institute, Los Angeles, Cal., his home being considered as with his parents at Kenilworth, Ill., his present address Glendale, Cal.

Note—All of the above children of Benjamin 3rd graduated from the Joseph Sears School, Kenilworth, Ill., and the New Trier High School, Winnetka, Ill.

ROSS RICHARDS

1907-

NINTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



ROSS RICHARDS

ATLAS OF THE

1900

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY



ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION

Ross Richards Family

10.10 ROSS, born April 12, 1907. He is tall, very light complexioned, was slim but now weighs about 175 pounds, is quiet and of few words, and is well liked. He has had excellent health. He is not like any of his ancestors. He has excellent memory, and lacks the usual Richards musical faculty.

His education beyond High School was the Business Course, University of Illinois. (Delta Upsilon)

He married MARGARET WADROPE STEVENS on April 27, 1929, also University of Illinois (Alpha, Gamma, Delta).

Margaret was born Feb. 28, 1909, the only child of Robert Donald Stevens of Chicago, Ill., and Jeanette Mathieson Stevens. Robert Donald Stevens was born in Northumberland County, England, close to the Scotland line. And Jeanette Stevens was born at Falkirk, Scotland, both being Scotch.

Ross is an Adjuster with the Western Adjustment and Inspection Company, Chicago, Ill. They live at 520 So. Mitchell Ave., Arlington Heights, Ill. Their summer home is at Sturgeon Bay, Wis. Ross and Margaret have one daughter, Barbara Jean, born Aug. 23, 1932.

WINTHROP RICHARDS

1911 -

NINTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD

Winthrop Richards Family

10.12 WINTHROP, was born May 16, 1911. He is distinctly of a Ross type, very dark complexioned and of Dr. Ross features more than Richards. He is rather pleasant and ready in conversation. He is basically of scientific, engineering and industrial mind.

Beyond High School his education was Mechanical Engineering, University of Illinois (Chi Phi), and he is now with Lammert & Mann, Chicago, Ill.

He married, April 26, 1941, JANE VITTUM SOWERS of Evanston, Ill., who was born Sept. 16, 1913, oldest daughter of Dr. Alva Sowers, born in Genoa, Ill., and Nina Vittum, born at Ottawa, Ill.

Jane was a graduate of Northwestern University and was with Encyclopaedia Britannica.

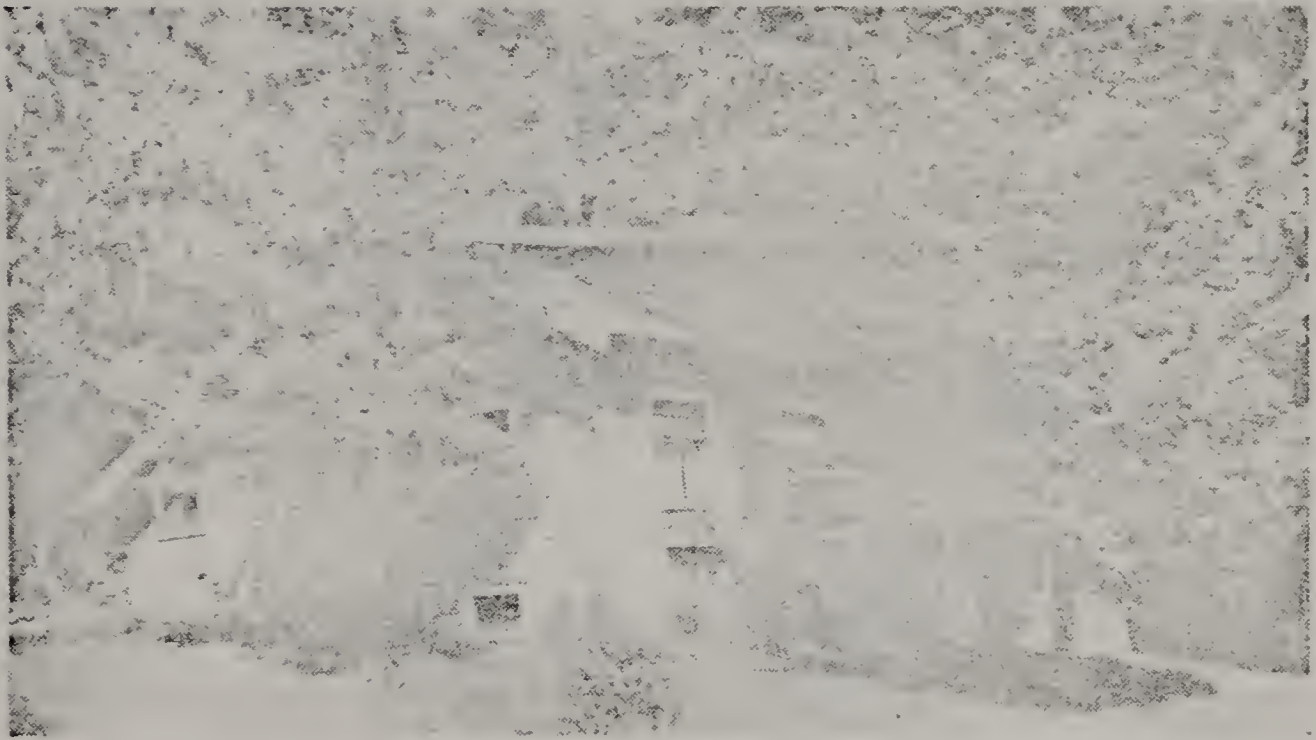
ALFRED BILLINGS RICHARDS

1879-

EIGHTH GENERATION FROM EDWARD



Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Billings Richards



Home of
ALFRED BILLINGS RICHARDS

809 Summit Avenue, South,
Bremerton, Washington

Alfred Billings Richards Family

9A ALFRED BILLINGS was born March 12, 1879, at Canton, Mass. He is medium complexioned, rather long face, or oval, blue gray eyes and medium statue. He did not become bald as did some of his family.

He was blind for three months at the age of three, following measles, his poor eyes afterward prevented much study, but he has had very good general health through his life.

He first worked in a wholesale hardware business in Boston, Mass., then became a machinist in Hyde Park, Mass., and later had a small shop of his own in Canton, Mass. He went to LaConner, Wash., in 1914 and was in the Bank there two and one half years. He moved to Bremerton, September, 1916, and worked in the Navy Yard there as a machinist, and transferred in 1930 to the Planning Section, retiring March 31, 1941, on pension, and now lives at his home, 809 Summit Ave., Bremerton. He also was musical and sang tenor in the Baptist Church choir for twenty years.

Alfred married in Bremerton, Wash., Sept. 26, 1916, MYRTLE MARY ROBINSON, of LaConner, Wash., who was born July 31, 1891, in Lewiston, Idaho, daughter of John Robinson and Minnie Heiney Robinson.

John Robinson was born in Liverpool, England. He came to the U. S. as a child, was shipwrecked with his parents off New England, lived in Boston; sailed around the Horn to San Francisco and to Portland, Oregon. He then moved to Lewiston, Idaho, where he became an X-ray assistant to doctors. He here married Minnie Heiney, descendent of Jacob Heiney (Joseph Branch) of Pennsylvania, and was in an Artillery Regiment in the war of the Revolution.

Joseph Heiney came to the U. S. in 1750 from Damstedt Hesse, Germany. Minnie's parents were Oregon pioneers of

RICHARDS FAMILY GENEALOGY

Quaker faith. John Robinson died in 1923. Minnie in 1939.

Myrtle is a graduate of Lewiston (Idaho) State Normal School, also University of Washington Special Journalism Course. She taught Home Economics and is active socially.

Alfred and Myrtle had three sons:

1 ALDEN LOWELL, June, 1919, at Seattle, Wash., who lived three days.

2 LOWELL, born July 22, 1920, at Seattle, Wash. Lowell is dignified, quiet, reserved and a brilliant student, who active in extra curricula activities in the Bremerton High School, being editor of the school paper.

He was presented with the Jessup Journalism Award from a local newspaper. The year after graduation from High School he worked with the Bremerton Sun as proof reader. He is now majoring in Journalism at the University of Washington, and has here played French Horn in the University concert band. He was pledged to Phi Mu Alpha, a national musical Frat. He is a member of the Charleston Baptist Church.

3 MYRON NEWTON, was born Dec. 19, 1923, at Seattle, Wash. He resembles Lowell in features, etc., and also is musical and plays French Horn in the Bremerton High School Orchestra.

His hobby is boats, and he is a member of the Bremerton Junior Yacht Club, and is building a twenty foot cruiser at this time.

He is a friendly soul with many friends. He is a member of the Charleston Baptist Church.

